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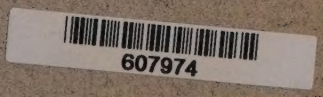
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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

FORTY-THREE VOLUMES.

—(33.)—

COMMERCIAL REPORTS.

Session

5 February —— 13 *August* 1875.

VOL. LXXIV.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

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FORTY-THREE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD VOLUME.

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COMMERCIAL. No. 3 (1875).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES

OF

EMBASSY AND LEGATION

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, &c.,

OF THE

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.

PART I.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, February 1875.

LONDON:
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Argentine Republic.

Report by Mr. St. John on the Financial and Commercial Position of the Argentine Republic for the Year 1873.

Preliminary remarks.

Under the federal system prevailing in this country, the whole of the revenue denominated "national," as distinguished from "provincial," is derived from a half-dozen sources, of which the export and import duties, especially the latter, constitute to a most preponderating extent the chief contributing elements of that portion of public income which, under the control of Congress, is administered by the National Government.

It is from official returns presented to Congress that the following data have been collected. The great disparity which they evince between the exports and imports, the former being only 64 per cent. of the latter, is generally ascribed to a tendency on the part of the Custom-house administration to over-rate the value of imports and to under-rate that of exports, in the belief that by so doing encouragement is given to the home producer. I have, however, found that in the case of wool, for instance, which is the principal item of production and exportation, the official valuation is almost the same as the invoice price of the article. The system, besides, if really put in practice, would only result in needlessly conveying abroad an erroneous impression that the country is year by year increasing its indebtedness to an extent which must surely lead to bankruptcy

in the absence of a better equilibrium between the amounts that it buys and sells.

The Revenue.

The national revenue in 1873 amounted to 4,043,446*l.*, being more by 408,971*l.* than that of 1872, and more by 2,384,432*l.* than that of 1865, which is here mentioned as the first year in which a report of the country has been drawn up by one of Her Majesty's Secretaries of Legation. The national revenue at that time, only eight years ago, amounted to 1,659,014*l.* It has more than doubled since.

Deterioration of Revenue.

The unfavourable circumstances that have operated in retarding this year the course of prosperity which this country is bound to pursue, are the recent rebellion in the province of Entre Rios, and the unavoidable precautions taken by the Government to arrest its extension to the adjoining provinces. According to official data the diminution of revenue from that province alone was 90,939*l.*, or only one-half the amount which it yielded the previous year. In the Customs receipts from the province of Santa Fé there is a decline amounting to 11,139*l.*, attributed to the state of siege which it was found necessary to impose in consequence of proximity to the seat of disaffection.

Uncollected Revenue.

The National Government holds 17,000 shares in the "Central Argentine Railway," a line connecting the towns of Rosario and Cordoba. Instead of 23,324*l.*, which, according to the Minister of Finance, should have been received as dividends on these shares, the sum of 11,370*l.* was paid up; the cause assigned by the managers being that it had been found necessary to expend 300,000*l.* in the erection of stations over and above the contract price. As the English shareholders have suffered, and the imputed reason of one of them was the non-fulfilment by the Argentine Government of its 7 per cent. guarantee obligations, the following letter, addressed by the Resident Director to the English newspaper "Standard" of Buenos Ayres, will be found interesting, as showing the good faith of the Argentine Government in such matters :—

"To the Editor of 'The Standard.'

"Sir, "*Buenos Ayres, May* 9, 1874.

"I have read in your paper of this day's date a copy

of a letter published in Herapath's Railway Journal, signed by a shareholder in the Central Argentine Railway Company, which has a 7 per cent. guarantee from the Argentine Government. The writer warns the investing public not to rely too much upon such a guarantee, and states that his reason for doing so is that the Government has compelled the Company to expend all the money received for the guarantee upon new and needlessly costly stations and other works, the result being that the shareholders have received no interest for more than two years.

"Now, as Resident Director of this Company, I wish to state—

"1. That the National Government have paid up punctually the balances of the guarantee accounts, even previously to those accounts being audited by their accountant, being satisfied with a promise to repay them any amount to which hereafter a just objection may be made. At present they do not owe a single dollar.

"2. That the cause of the non-payment of dividends has been, as stated, an excessive expenditure on stations which have been built on a much more costly scale than was originally agreed upon with the contractors, but no blame in this respect attaches to the Government, who have had no interference with the road, nor will have, until such time as it may be finally completed and delivered over according to agreement.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "THOMAS ARMSTRONG."

In forming the estimates for 1873, it was calculated that 150,000*l.* would be received by the State as interest at 6 per cent. on deposits in the National Bank on account of the Public Works Loan, which was floated in London, but has not yet been fully negotiated. The sum actually paid into the Exchequer on this head was 95,711*l.*

Import duties.

The chief item of revenue, as already stated, is that derived from duties on imports. These yielded in 1873 the sum of 3,303,341*l.*, showing an increase over the previous year of 410,176*l.*, and over 1865 of 2,238,981*l.*

Value of Imports.

The value of imports in 1873 was 14,213,038*l.*, showing an improvement over the previous year of 2,751,342*l.* Their value in 1865 was 7,046,783*l.*, or less

than half, although in this figure is added 30 per cent., which was computed at that time as the amount imported at other places than Buenos Ayres, where there alone existed a system of record, which is now general in the country.

VALUE of Imports from each Country.

Name of Country.	1865.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.
	£	£	£	£	£
England	1,601,321	2,582,230	2,907,402	3,263,213	3,868,829
France	1,334,393	2,551,447	1,352,764	2,620,724	3,651,027
United States ..	322,816	572,467	413,455	641,189	1,033,523
Italy	252,254	337,033	459,438	572,298	756,877
Germany	221,474	314,914	236,026	364,422	645,603
Brazil	474,209	671,499	510,019	653,707	593,791
Belgium	81,588	257,250	337,601	481,362	593,517
Spain	267,087	435,877	319,228	575,219	590,520
Uruguay	241,171	420,002	695,669	842,866	547,059
Holland	158,572	259,553	248,766	290,610	322,323
Chile	9,818	273,954	331,715	251,440	288,836
Paraguay	133,307	30,718	99,705	144,484	167,976
Cuba	72,000	43,273	49,385	58,357	75,479
Various countries ..	8,835	9,241	25,357	70,258	62,145
India	31,655	51,249	40,517	59,244	50,264
Portugal	1,102	4,627	1,051	15,269	27,676
Bolivia	..	38,619	19,920	22,343	16,239
Peru	..	22	..	60	89
	5,211,602	8,853,975	8,047,118	10,927,065	13,291,773
In transit.. ..	..	654,022	774,929	992,759	921,265
Total ..	5,211,602	9,507,997	8,822,047	11,919,824	14,213,038

LIST of Countries in the order of the amount per cent. to which their Exports to the Argentine Republic have Increased or Diminished in 1873, as compared with 1872.

		Per cent.
Portugal	increase	81·25
Germany	,,	77·15
United States	,,	61·18
Peru	,,	48·33
France	,,	39·31
Italy	,,	32·25
West Indies	,,	29·34
Belgium	,,	23·29
England	,,	18·55
Paraguay	,,	16·25
Chile	,,	14·87
Various	,,	13·05
Holland	,,	10·91
Spain	,,	2·65
India	diminution	17·86
Brazil	,,	10·09
Bolivia	,,	37·58
Uruguay	,,	54·07

LIST of Argentine Custom-houses, ranged in the Order of the Value of Foreign Goods imported to each in 1873.

	£
Buenos Ayres	11,886,861
Rosario	1,409,279
Concordia	261,819
Mendoza	106,378
San Juan	90,952
San Nicolas	88,984
Corrientes	65,170
Salta	59,644
Goya	38,621
Paso de los Libres	32,661
Santa Fé	28,436
Paraná	28,020
Uruguay	27,683
Gualeguaychu	23,068
Gualeguay	21,146
Jujuy	14,562
Bella Vista	11,326
Patagones	10,027
La Victoria	7,691
La Paz	710
	14,213,038

LIST of Argentine Custom-houses, ranged in the Order of the amount Imported to each, and showing the Increase or Diminution as compared with the previous Year.

Name of Custom-house.	Value of Imports, 1872.	Value of Imports, 1873.	1873.	
			Increase.	Diminution.
	£	£	£	£
Buenos Ayres	9,607,731	11,886,861	2,279,130	..
Rosario	1,437,945	1,409,279	..	28,666
Concordia	133,701	261,819	128,118	..
Mendoza	88,434	106,378	17,944	..
San Juan	60,252	90,952	30,700	..
San Nicolas	80,198	88,984	8,786	..
Corrientes	51,023	65,170	14,147	..
Salta	54,180	59,644	5,464	..
Goya	39,181	38,621	..	559
Paso de los Libres ..	20,063	32,661	12,598	..
Santa Fé	38,895	28,436	..	10,459
Paraná	46,838	28,020	..	18,818
Uruguay	48,867	27,683	..	21,184
Gualeguaychu	68,699	23,068	..	45,631
Gualeguay	54,469	21,146	..	33,323
Jujuy	20,035	14,562	..	5,473
Bella Vista	12,896	11,326	..	1,570
Patagones	1,092	10,027	8,935	..
La Victoria	45,225	7,691	..	37,534
La Paz	10,102	710	..	9,392
Total	11,919,826	14,213,038	2,505,822	212,609

Exports.

The export duties were estimated to yield in 1873 the sum of 700,000*l.* They produced, however, only 497,702*l.*, being short by 202,298*l.* of the estimated sum, and by 28,369*l.* of that realized on the previous year.

The following table shows the amount of export duties levied in 1872 and 1873 in each province. It will be observed that, with exception of the insignificant export trade from Salta, the province of Buenos Ayres has alone improved, and this improvement, I may add, is general throughout every Custom-house in the Province.

EXPORT Duties collected in 1873, compared with 1872.

Name of Province.	1872.	1873.	1873. Increase.	1873. Diminution.
	£	£	£	£
Buenos Ayres ..	420,733	429,702	8,969	..
Entre Rios.. ..	73,114	43,169	..	29,945
Corrientes	6,058	5,867	..	191
Santa Fé	26,401	19,924	..	6,477
Mendoza	4	..	..	4
San Juan	..	..	..	..
Salta	3	7	4	..
Jujuy	83	72	..	11
Catamarca.. ..	..	..	..	..
Rioja	..	..	..	..
Total	526,396	498,741	8,973	36,628
Goods returned ..	325	1,039	714	..
Actually exported..	526,071	497,702	8,259	36,628

TABLE of Duty-paying Exports in 1873, as compared with previous Year.

Article of Produce.	Amount Exported in—		Official Value.	
	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.
			£	£
Jerked beef ... ... English lbs.	89,589,660	87,769,550	422,183	276,648
Wool, washed and unwashed ... „ „	198,765,886	156,781,756	3,270,424	3,416,156
Tallow and fat ... ... „ „	114,742,499	86,529,791	1,476,986	1,097,458
Sheep skins ... ... number	33,039,270	25,174,065	829,061	855,925
Ox-hides ... ... „	8,121,758	2,539,227	2,114 342	1,897,365
Horse-hides ... ... „	208,509	149,482	67,367	55,860
Total			8,180,363	7,599,412

It will be observed in the above table that there is a decline in every article of export except wool and

sheep skins, which are almost exclusively a product of the Province of Buenos Ayres.

But notwithstanding this apparent falling off in native duty paying produce, if the whole of the exports for the year 1873 be taken in the aggregate, it will be found that they exceeded in value those of the preceding year, in spite of the unfavourable circumstances of a civil war in the Province of Entre Rios, as the following table shows.

TABLE showing the Value in Sterling of Aggregate Amount of Duty Paying and Duty Free Exports in 1873, as compared with 1872.

Name of Custom-house.	1872.	1873.	1873.	
			Increase.	Diminution.
	£	£	£	£
Buenos Ayres ..	6,498,250	6,886,506	388,256	..
Bella Vista.. ..	793	193	..	600
Concordia	135,136	116,593	..	18,543
Corrientes	63,273	73,055	9,782	..
Goya	58,576	39,374	..	19,202
Gualeguay ..	251,616	150,344	..	101,272
Gualeguaychu ..	292,516	119,654	..	172,862
Jujuy	31,738	32,600	862	..
La Victoria ..	22,753	3,839	..	18,914
La Paz	39,219	..	..	39,219
Mendoza	180,259	275,008	94,749	..
Parana	119,856	68,095	..	51,761
Paso de los Libres ..	13,217	29,540	16,323	..
Patagones	18,319	49,073	30,754	..
Rosario	551,200	420,217	..	130,983
Salta	18,014	75,779	57,765	..
San Juan	99,979	105,092	5,113	..
Santa Fé	4,881	3,587	..	1,294
San Nicolas ..	509,869	564,376	54,507	..
Uruguay	239,174	160,937	..	78,237
Total	9,148,638	9,173,862	658,111	632,887
Deduct	..	9,148,638	632,887	..
Net increase in 1873	..	25,224	25,224	..

List of Countries ranged in the Order of Value in Sterling of the Amounts of Argentine Produce Exported to them in 1873, as compared with 1872.

Name of Country of Destination.	1872.	1873.	1873.	
			Increase.	Diminution.
	£	£	£	£
Belgium	2,557,123	2,776,033	218,910	..
England	1,795,757	1,887,664	91,906	..
France	1,654,190	1,730,246	76,056	..
United States ..	862,471	605,985	..	256,486
Italy	262,522	296,932	34,410	..
Spain	348,281	245,391	..	102,890
Uruguay	319,618	180,988	..	138,630
Brazil	184,787	134,141	..	50,646
West Indies ..	223,625	133,689	..	89,936
Chile	60,049	92,687	32,637	..
Various countries ..	61,722	90,301	28,579	..
Germany	129,915	89,809	..	40,106
Holland	13,057	45,241	32,184	..
Portugal	11,084	14,577	3,493	..
Paraguay	8,043	4,275	..	3,768
Bolivia	1,085	1,009	..	76
India	123	..	..	123
Total	8,493,452	8,328,968	518,175	682,661
In transit	174,491	149,441	..	25,049
Duty free	480,695	695,453	214,759	..
Total	9,148,638	9,173,862	732,934	707,750
Deduct	..	9,148,638	707,710	..
Net increase in 1873	..	25,224	25,224	..

It appears from the foregoing tabular statements that the value in sterling of the whole foreign trade of the Argentine Republic reached in 1873 the sum of 23,386,900*l.*, being an increase over the previous year in this respect of 2,318,436*l.* But, on the other hand, there is seemingly a still greater disproportion between the value of the amount exported and the value of the amount imported, for the latter appears to have exceeded the former in 1872 by only 2,771,186*l.*, whereas in 1873 the excess was to the value of 5,039,176*l.*, being over 50 per cent. more than the exports. This discrepancy, as already mentioned, it has been attempted to account for by the idea generally prevailing, that native produce,

in order to encourage the producer, is systematically much underrated in the official valuation; but this would hardly appear to be the case if the item wool be taken for instance. It is by far the most important product of the country; the amount in English pounds exported in 1873 was 156,781,756*l.*, on which the official valuation was 3,416,156*l.*, making the bale of 800 English pounds to be worth 17*l.* 8*s.* 7½*d.*, whereas the invoice price of wool per bale is not more than 18*l.* on an average. It is difficult under these circumstances to ascribe such an excess as 50 per cent. of imports over exports to the official valuation of the latter.

Shipping.

The following table shows the number of ships that entered and cleared during the years 1872 and 1873:—

	Entered.						Cleared.					
	Sailing Ships.				Steamers.		Sailing Ships.				Steamers.	
	Laden.		In Ballast.				Laden.		In Ballast.			
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1872	1,972	545,160	54	13,478	1,117	555,248	1,462	413,199	210	69,307	1,117	555,248
1873	1,419	478,486	25	6,647	746	465,593	845	275,366	469	197,557	746	465,593

Postage.

The revenue from postage amounted in 1873 to 31,743*l.*, or more by 4,256*l.* than in the previous year. It is greatly to be deplored that this branch of the public service should be looked upon rather as a source of revenue than the means of promptly and safely conveying that knowledge and information on which depend the prosperity and development of a country so large in extent, so full of natural resources, and as yet so thinly populated.

Stamp dues.

From duties on stamped paper the revenue amounted in 1873 to 57,764*l.*, showing a falling off as compared with the previous year of 4,391*l.* This decline is ascribed to the rebellion in Entre Rios, when, it appears, all the stamped paper despatched thither for use by the Custom-houses of the Province was, during the confusion, purloined, and surreptitiously availed of at Custom-houses in other parts.

Telegraphs.

The Government telegraphs produced 11,055*l.*, and show a falling off since the previous year amounting to 1,390*l.*

Miscellaneous sources of Revenue.

From miscellaneous sources of revenue the receipts were 21,636*l.*

xpenditure.

The amount estimated as necessary to meet the requirements of the State was 5,113,165*l.*; of this only 4,427,408*l.* was expended in an ordinary way, leaving a saving of 685,757*l.*

epartment the Interior.

The Department of the Interior was estimated to require the sum of 461,496*l.*, whereas its actual disbursements were 417,912*l.*, and the saving 43,584*l.*

oreign Office.

The Foreign Department appears to have had it in its power to effect the largest saving, if the small amount at its disposal be taken into consideration. The estimated expenditure was 36,533*l.*; the actual expenditure was only 19,945*l.*, or little more than half. The saving was mainly effected by a delay in the appointment of several Ministers to foreign countries, of which one to London had been in contemplation on drawing up the estimates.

inance epartment.

The sum sanctioned by Congress for defraying the expenses of the Department of Finance seems at first sight as quite out of proportion to the resources of the country. It amounted to 3,146,673*l.*, but out of this sum had to be paid some very heavy charges, of which that of 1,770,740*l.* as interest on foreign and internal debts, forms a by no means insignificant one; if to this be added 1,000,000*l.* as interest on the floating debt, there is left a residue amounting to 375,933*l.* for meeting the requirements of the Department, and it was found necessary in consequence to open a supplementary credit of 266*l.* to balance the Departmental accounts for the year.

epartment Justice.

The expenses of the Department of Justice, it was estimated, would amount to 320,363*l.*; they did not exceed 242,688*l.*, showing a saving of 77,675*l.*

Var and avy Department.

The War and Navy Department in the estimates was put down as requiring 906,040*l.*; it required a supplementary credit of 1,294,769*l.* to meet the expenses consequent on the political disturbances in the Province of Entre Rios.

ecreed upplementary redits.

The supplementary credits which it was found necessary to open by special decrees of the Government ammounted in the aggregate to 6,205,014*l.* In this sum is included one of 2,915,702*l.* for the construction of a railway from Cordoba to Tucuman; another sum of 205,601*l.* for the line between Villa Maria and Rio Quarto; another sum of 800,000*l.* for the projected port

works at Buenos Ayres; and, lastly, the sum of 29,887*l.* for the erection of a Custom-house and construction of a port at Rosario.

The orders for payment on the credits above referred to, for extraordinary expenses, amounted to 1,777,606*l.*, which sum was apportioned to the Departments of Interior, Finance, Public Instruction, and Religion, War, and Navy.

It results from what has been stated, that the expenditures that have at various times been sanctioned during the financial year 1873, amounted to 6,205,014*l.*, as explained in the following table :—

	Estimates sanctioned by Congress.	Expenditures sanctioned by Special Laws.	Total.
	£	£	£
Department of Interior ..	417,913	420,665	838,578
„ Foreign Affairs	19,945	..	19,945
„ Finance ..	2,840,822	43,901	2,884,723
„ Justice ..	242,688	18,271	260,959
„ War and Navy	906,040	1,294,769	2,200,809
	4,427,408	1,777,606	6,205,014

(Signed) F. R. ST. JOHN.

Buenos Ayres, December 15, 1874.

Denmark.

Mr. Pakenham to Sir C. Wyke.

Sir, *Copenhagen, December* 24, 1874.

THE accompanying tables, which I have the honour to inclose, show the imports and exports of Denmark for the half year ended 30th June, 1874, and are in as clear and concise a form as I have been able to make them.

Statistical information for the third quarter of this year is not at present procurable, as it is not yet compiled and printed at the proper Department, and the same remark applies, of course, to the fourth quarter, and which I understand will hardly be forthcoming before the month of April next year, when I propose to forward them both in as nearly as possible the same shape as forms the present inclosure, as also a continuation of the comparison between the exports and imports for 1873-74.

The Budget for 1875-76 was approved by the King on the 20th of October last, but there is a great hiatus in the statistical information for the present year, so I think it advisable to defer forwarding the same until I can send the whole subject in a more complete form, and which I hope may be in the early months of 1875.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. J. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure.

Report by Mr. Pakenham.

IMPORT.

		1874. 1st January to 30th June.	1873. 1st January to 30th June.	
			More.	Less.
Grain—				
Buckwheat ..	barrels	4,293	..	3,172
Barley	„	41,247	..	13,339
Beans	„	505	710	..
Peas	„	16,195	..	12,326
Oats	„	24,876	..	18,523
Wheat	„	79,833	..	36,026
Maize	„	18,369	..	14,227
Malt	„	573	..	199
Rye	„	177,645	..	138,770
Tares	„	484	..	448
Flour, &c.—				
Buckwheat ..	lbs.	1,221,897	..	830,063
Barley	„	24,772	..	5,283
Oats	„	111,935	..	74,756
Wheat	„	225,994	..	42,077
Rye	„	65,863	..	42,259
Maize	„	104,588	..	104,458
Other produce of grain, as starch, &c. ..	„	215,459	..	6,238
Potatoes	barrels	60,115	..	52,128
Linseed	„	20,762	8,675	..
Rapeseed	„	11,677	..	8,465
Cloverseed	lbs.	1,180,713	..	..
Grass-seed	„	746,823	..	..
Hops	„	218,656	30,906	..
Oil	„	10,578,848	..	8,081,019
Manure—				
Natural	„	9,429,702	..	2,988,365
Artificial	„	4,312,408	1,548,107	..
Cattlebones ..	„	226,032	..	70,686
Palm and cocoanut kernels	„	3,006,620	..	1,940,550
Oilcake	„	5,665,283	..	2,837,928
Beer	gallons	14,507	418	..
Wine	„	351,870	43,382	..
Spirits	„	155,070	..	23,592
Fish—				
Fresh	lbs.	38,033	..	8,335
Dried, smoked, salted, cured	„	6,511,193	..	4,457,166
Oysters	„	4,176	..	2,699
Horses	heads	2,078	342	..

		1874. 1st January to 30th June.	1873. 1st January to 30th June.	
			More.	Less.
Cattle	heads	6,071	3,834	..
Pigs	„	3,469	8,160	..
Sheep	„	2,496	905	..
Pork and hams	lbs.	2,445,385	..	1,312,486
Meat, tongues, &c.	„	277,691	44,804	..
Cheese	„	366,758	..	100,268
Butter	„	920,864	804,160	..
Wool	„	311,692	..	18,676
Hides—				
Raw	„	2,154,545	..	124,210
Manufactured	„	203,086	..	2,022
Dyeing stuffs	„	2,488,869	..	523,853
Gum, resin, &c.	„	1,182,342	..	539,520
Ditto	barrels	1,194	871	..
Drugs and spices	lbs.	610,174	..	27,156
Coffee	„	8,124,469	3,374,472	..
Chicory root, and other surrogates for coffee	„	737,579	2,270,060	..
Rice, and rice flour	„	1,872,102	1,540,288	..
Sugar, sirup, molasses	„	26,971,478	..	3,037,384
Sago, arrowroot, &c.	„	658,150	136,097	..
Tea	„	220,463	23,850	..
Tobacco—				
Raw	„	2,323,072	166,352	..
Manufactured, cigars	„	85,242	..	5,152
Fruit	„	2,740,143	220,248	..
Paper	„	1,219,734	..	11,935
Fancy goods	„	109,912	..	32,661
Glassware	„	2,778,768	..	1,291,828
Linen goods	„	6,045,192	..	1,165,258
Worsted goods	„	1,718,846	..	327,349
Silk	„	101,110	..	14,570
Bricks, tiles, &c.	pieces	9,137,180	..	1,460,605
Earthenware	lbs.	1,739,014	31,239	..
China	„	60,426	..	3,702
Metals—				
Raw	„	11,119,979	..	1,671,816
Iron goods	„	46,768,183	..	15,788,277
Other manufactured	„	1,441,436	..	651,533
Salt—				
Rock salt	„	8,207,966	..	1,289,687
Other descriptions	„	12,395,171	..	2,661,646
Coal	keel	13,232	..	3,029
Timber and deals—				
Russian	cub. ft.	300,420	..	15,030
From other countries	„	4,874,249	..	585,955
Manufactured	„	100,533	..	42,159
Oak	„	173,378	..	89,171
Ebony, yew, &c.	lbs.	189,984	..	78,842
Rags	„	543,865	198,830	..

Export.

		1874. 1st January to 30th June.	1873. 1st January to 30th June.	
			More.	Less.
Grain—				
Buckwheat	barrels	989	3,580	..
Barley	„	504,814	..	4,898
Peas	„	4,352	1,740	..
Oats	„	249,355	169,840	..
Wheat	„	112,381	52,132	..
Malt	„	4,019	..	1,046
Rye	„	125,295	139,605	..
Tares	„	1,152	1,496	..
Flour, &c.—				
Buckwheat	lbs.	205,844	..	151,219
Barley	„	4,024,450	..	280,432
Oats	„	55,181	..	35,202
Wheat	„	24,430,253	..	4,826,577
Rye	„	8,200,313	..	1,574,481
Malt	„	5,040	525	..
Other produce of grain.	„	811,774	..	86,077
Potatoes	barrels	2,675	19,713	..
Linseed	„	1,537	2,113	..
Rapeseed	„	5,262	..	4,412
Cloverseed	lbs.	402,489	..	..
Grass-seed	„	166,892	..	..
Hops	„	4,232	614	..
Oil	„	1,788,037	..	566,139
Manure—				
Natural	„	1,228,555	..	860,304
Artificial	„	1,665,633	..	966,451
Cattlebones	„	2,049,327	..	243,421
Oilcake	„	2,810,060	1,005,321	..
Beer	gallons	73,126	45,344	..
Wine	„	72,042	..	33,171
Spirits	„	132,655	..	40,371
Fish—				
Fresh	lbs.	1,056,989	119,753	..
Dried, smoked, salted	„	4,032,158	..	1,334,092
Oysters	„	749,325	..	236,693
Horses	heads	4,836	2,313	..
Cattle	„	42,142	..	3
Pigs	„	102,113	..	27,103
Sheep	„	3,288	1,377	..
Pork and hams	lbs.	6,493,602	..	2,121,248
Meat, tongues, &c.	„	937,618	..	245,855
Cheese	„	72,516	..	52,691
Butter	„	13,429,472	..	3,642,912
Wool	„	1,227,479	145,532	..
Hides—				
Raw	„	2,636,119	170,160	..
Manufactured	„	25,389	26,757	..

		1874. 1st January to 30th June.	1873. 1st January to 30th June.	
			More.	Less.
Gloves	lbs.	16,391	..	5,261
Dyeing stuffs ..	,,	475,244	..	292,535
Gum, resin, &c. ..	,,	223,378	..	188,232
Ditto	barrels	3,517	..	1,360
Drugs and spices ..	lbs.	64,429	..	13,138
Coffee	,,	4,265,714	..	261,393
Rice and rice flour ..	,,	1,645,746	193,250	..
Sugar, sirup, molasses..	,,	3,746,290	368,639	..
Sago, arrowroot, &c. ..	,,	25,183	..	9,612
Tea	,,	131,113	..	109,303
Tobacco—				
Raw	,,	49,093	..	7,936
Manufactured, and cigars	,,	193,177	..	14,600
Fruit	,,	523,372	..	84,211
Paper	,,	294,492	185,428	..
Glassware	,,	770,156	..	621,289
Linen goods.. ..	,,	703,279	..	139,878
Worsted goods ..	,,	161,869	..	33,982
Silk	,,	5,135	..	2,164
Bricks and tiles ..	pieces	1,097,768	34,442	..
Earthenware . ..	lbs.	94,162	15,463	..
China	,,	75,489	..	7,337
Metals—				
Raw	,,	3,872,041	..	129,564
Iron goods ..	,,	4,100,793	273,523	..
Other manufactured .	,,	180,323	..	71,524
Timber and deals ..	cub. ft.	114,019	60,591	..
Oak	,,	11,023	..	6,753
Coal	keel	1,404	..	350
Salt—				
Rock salt.. ..	lbs	4,947	..	147
Refined	,,	973,817	..	200,690
Rags	,,	1,499,640	129,408	..

With regard to weights, measures, and money, I have to remark that 101½ Danish pounds are equal to 112 English pounds, 21 Danish barrels of grain are equal to 10 imperial quarters, and, as a rule, variable of course at times, 9 Danish dollars are equivalent to 1*l.* sterling.

Grain, Flour, &c.—The import of these articles is chiefly to Copenhagen, partly for export in steamers, and partly for the great mills, which carry on a considerable export business with Great Britain, Holland, and the Danish Colonies.

The decrease in the export is to be attributed to a

smaller harvest in 1873 than 1872; but it is also worthy of notice that the farmers, year after year, use more grain as food for their cattle.

The increasing import of—

Manure and Feeding Preparations for cattle shows that the country is working at its natural sources of wealth, agriculture and cattle-breeding.

Cattle, Pigs, &c.—The export of cattle and pigs is increasing very considerably, and steamers run with cattle, mostly to Great Britain, not only from Copenhagen, but also from some of the principal ports in Jutland.

Butter, Pork, &c.—The export of these articles is also increasing with every year; the greatest part goes to the United Kingdom.

Traffic.—During this year two new railway lines have been completed, one through the fertile islands of Falster and Lolland, terminating at the port of Nakskov, where a regular traffic by steamers to England has already been established, and the other from Copenhagen through the north-western part of Zealand to Kallundborg, the port nearest the coast of Jutland.

The Government is now building a new line through the middle and western part of Jutland, terminating in the new port of Esbjerg, on the west coast of Jutland, near the German frontier; this line goes through those parts of Jutland where the nature of the soil does not permit agriculture to be carried on on a larger scale, but where the people breed cattle for export. The port of Esbjerg is already open to traffic, and it is to be expected that the greatest number of cattle, which formerly was exported to Great Britain from the port of Tönning, in Schleswig, will in future go from Esbjerg.

(Signed) F. J. PAKENHAM.

Copenhagen, December 24, 1874.

Germany.

Lord Odo Russell to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Berlin, November* 19, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, in translation by Mr. Adams, the Law respecting Trade Marks, as it finally passed the German Parliament on the 14th instant.

I have also the honour to inclose a copy of some valuable observations on this Law, for which I am indebted to Her Majesty's Consul at Dantzic.

There are one or two sentences in a speech of Deputy Bamberger, on the debate upon the third reading (November 14), which are curious. He stated that German manufacturers have the weakness to send their goods, stamped with English marks, to America, where English goods are much liked, although the German manufacture is often of much better quality than the English goods, under the marks of which it passes current. He also said, that according to his taste, the same was the case with "Sekt" (a name used in Germany for champagne), "we always received," said he, "the 'Sekt' manufactured in Germany with a French label, and I personally much prefer the German 'Sekt' if it is prepared with real strong Riesling grape."

I have, &c.

(Signed) ODO RUSSELL.

Inclosure.

Law respecting Trade Marks, passed by the German Parliament on the 14*th of November,* 1874.

(Translation.)

WE WILLIAM, &c.:

§ 1. Tradesmen, whose firm is entered in the Commercial Register, can apply to the proper Court for the entry in the Commercial Register of the district in which

the principal firm has its head domicile (Hauptniederlassung)* of marks which are to be used on the goods themselves, or on the packing, to distinguish their goods from those of other traders.

§ 2. The application must contain a clear representation of the trade mark (§ 1), together with a description of the kind of goods for which the mark is destined.

§ 3. The registration of trade marks, the use of which by the applicant is protected by the Law of the State, and also of such marks which up to the beginning of 1875 have been universally received in commerce as the recognized marks of a certain trading firm, may not be refused.

For the rest, the registration is forbidden if the marks contain numerals, letters, words, armorial bearings, or scandalous designs.

§ 4. The registration is made in the name of the firm of the applicant. The time of the application is then to be noted. If a trade mark already registered has to be registered again, owing to the transfer of the head domicile, the time of the first application is then to be noted.

§ 5. On the petition of the partners of the firm, the registered trade mark will be cancelled. It is cancelled officially—

1. If the firm is removed from the Commercial Register.

2. If an alteration in the firm is applied for without a simultaneous application for the maintenance of the mark.

3. If ten years have elapsed since the register of the mark without an application for its further maintenance, or since such application without its having been renewed.

4. If the mark, according to § 3, ought not to have been registered.

§ 6. The first registration, and the cancelling of a mark shall be notified in the "Deutsche Reich-Anzeiger."

The costs of the notification of the registration are to be borne by the proprietor of the firm.

* "Haupt Niederlassung" is what in French law is called "le siége de la raison sociale." As our trading firms are not registered, we do not draw any such distinction.

§ 7. For the first registration of a mark which is not protected by the law of the land, a fee of 50 marks is to be paid.

The States Governments can excuse the payment of a fee for the registration of such marks, which up to the commencement of the year 1875 have been accepted universally in trade as the known mark of a certain tradesman.

Other registrations and cancellings are gratis.

§ 8. The right to affix on goods, or their packing, a mark applied for in respect of such goods at the Commercial Register, or to traffic in such goods, belongs exclusively to the proprietors of that firm to which the application was first granted.

§ 9. With respect to trade marks, which are protected by the law of the State, likewise with respect to such marks as up to the commencement of the year 1875 have been accepted universally in trade as the known mark of a certain tradesman, no one except the proprietors protected by law, or universally acknowledged in trade, can acquire a right to such by an application for registration, on condition that the proprietors shall have made the application before the 1st of October, 1875.

§ 10. By the application for a trade-mark, which contains letters or words, no one will be prevented from using his name or his firm, even in making use of abbreviations for the verification of his goods.

No one can acquire a right by application to trade marks which have hitherto been freely used by all or by certain classes of tradesmen, or the registration of which is not permissible.

§ 11. The proprietor of a firm for which a trade mark is registered, must have it cancelled on the demand of the party who has the right to exclude him from the use of the mark, or as far as the trade mark belongs to those mentioned in the second paragraph of § 10, on the demand of a participator.

§ 10. The right obtained through application for a trade mark is cancelled—

1. By the withdrawal of the application, or by a request to cancel it on the part of the proprietor of the firm to which it belongs.

2. When one of the cases in § 5 (paragraphs 1 to 3) occurs.

§ 13. Every home manufacturer or trader can bring a civil action against any one who unlawfully marks goods with the name or the firm of the former, or who marks them with a trade mark, to the use of which the former is exclusively entitled, praying that the latter may be precluded from the right to use such trade mark, and be forbidden to use it any longer.

Similarly, the injured manufactured or trader can bring a civil action against any one who unlawfully traffics in or exposes for sale marked goods, praying that the latter may be forbidden to deal in such goods.

§ 14. Whoever unlawfully marks goods, or the packing thereof, with a trade mark intended to be protected by the present law, or with the name or the firm of a home manufacturer or trader, doing so knowingly, or who knowingly traffics in such unlawfully-marked goods, or exposes them for sale, shall be punished by a fine of from 150 to 3,000 marks, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, and must give compensation to the injured party.

The prosecution only takes place on petition (of the injured party).

§ 15. Instead of compensation provided for by this law, a fine to the amount of 5,000 marks, besides the punishment, can, on the demand of the injured party, be awarded to him. For this fine the condemned parties are liable as joint debtors.

When a fine is imposed it excludes any further money compensation.

§ 16. The Court will determine if any and what damages are to be assessed, and it does this according to the evidence, fixing the amount it thinks proper.

§ 17. If the accused is found guilty, then, with respect to the goods found in his possession, the marks on the packing or on the goods are to be destroyed; or, if the removal of the marks is not otherwise possible, the packing or the goods themselves are to be destroyed on the petition of the injured party.

If the accused is condemned, the injured party shall be authorized to publish the sentence at the cost of the condemned party. The manner of publication, as well as the period thereof, is to be declared in the sentence.

§ 18. The protection afforded by the provisions of the present law to the proprietor of a trade mark, a

name, or a firm, will not be lost when the trade mark, name, or firm is reproduced with changes which can only be recognized, after being the object of particular scrutiny.

§ 19. Civil suits, brought by virtue of this law, are taken as commercial suits, according to the spirit of the Imperial and States' laws ("Reichs und Landesgesetze").

§ 20. The provisions of the present law apply to the trade marks of tradesmen who have no registered firm ("Handelsniederlassung") in the Empire, as well as to the names or firms of foreign manufactures or tradespeople, if in the State where these latter have their domicile, German trade marks, names, and firms enjoy protection through a notification in the "Reichsgesetzblatt." The following special Rules will, however, be enforced, as regards the trade marks (§ 1) :—

1. An application to register a trade mark must be made to the Commercial Court at Leipzig, with a declaration that the applicant submits to the jurisdiction of the said Court in all plaints brought by virtue of this law.

2. With such application, proof must be given that in the foreign country all the requirements have been fulfilled to afford to the applicant protection to the trade mark there.

3. The application entitles to a right to such trade mark only so far and so long as the applicant is protected in its use in the foreign country.

§ 21. The present law comes into force on the 1st of May, 1875.

As to the trade marks which, up to this day, have been protected by the law of the State, the provisions of that law are still valid until application has been made according to the provisions of the present law, at furthest till the 1st of October, 1875.

Observations.

Previous to the enactment of this Law, the protection of peculiar descriptions of merchandize or manufacture was, to a certain degree, secured by an Article in the German Penal Code on the 31st of May, 1870.

Article 287 of that Code enacted a penalty—a fine of from 50 to 1,000 thalers or imprisonment up to six months—on any one forging or counterfeiting the name of any merchant, manufacturer, or producer, either on goods intended for sale, or on wrappers containing such goods or merchandize.

This punishment may be at present enforced likewise on German imitators of the names of foreign merchants or manufacturers wherever reciprocity of treatment is secured by Treaty to German producers.

From the time of the adaptation of this uniform system of protecting the names of manufactures throughout the whole of the German Empire, *i.e.*, since 1870, many voices have been heard complaining of the insufficiency of such protection on account of its not being extended to trade marks, but confining the protection accorded to the names of the manufacturers or merchants.

Some foreign Governments felt naturally aggrieved by the result, on perceiving that, notwithstanding the stipulation of Treaties on this subject, their industries did not receive the same degree of protection in the Zollverein which was bestowed on German trade marks within their dominions.

On the other hand, the German Imperial Chancery was always able to reply to representations of this kind, that they could not be expected to give to foreign producers a greater degree of protection than was enjoyed by "native subjects." (Article VII of the Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and the Zollverein, signed at Berlin, May 30, 1865. Hertslet's Treaties, vol. xii., p. 761.)

It is, however, only since the year 1870 that native criticism began to be applied to the existing German legislation on this subject. The formation of the German Empire caused the German Penal Code to apply with its provisions to Bavaria. It happened, however, that the local legislation of Bavaria, which was superseded by the Imperial Code, viz., the Bavarian Law of December 21, 1862, included trade marks in the full signification of that description, and gave these efficient protection.

But the reason which, more than any other, may have affected public opinion in this matter, is the fact

that the Province of Alsace-Lorraine, incorporated into the German Empire, had enjoyed under French rule a more efficient protection for the trade marks of its manufacturers.

An essay, printed under the auspices of the Commercial Chamber of Mülhausen in Alsace, in 1873, put forward pertinent arguments for extending to trade marks in Germany the same degree of protection that is given to the names of trading firms.

The necessity for further legislation on the subject of trade marks had been mooted at the annual meeting of the German "Handelstag" in 1870, and a resolution to that effect was adopted by the Imperial Parliament on the 20th of May, 1873.

The debate on that resolution, and the majority by which it was adopted, gave sufficient evidence of the progress that public opinion had made in Germany on the subject, and induced the Federal Council to devote its attention to a re-modelling of the law on trade marks. The project which has emanated from that Council has been passed by the Imperial Parliament with some modifications. When it comes into operation, *i.e.*, on the 1st of May, 1875, it will modify advantageously the position of those British manufacturers who attach value to their respective trade marks, as these will then enjoy a security in Germany, under certain conditions, which has been denied them heretofore.

The new German Law on trade marks may be properly divided and examined in three parts :—

I. What will constitute a trade mark entitled to protection in future? And how is the right to a particular mark acquired?

The name of a merchant or manufacturer on any goods, or on their packages or wrappers, continues to enjoy protection as heretofore.

In addition, however, a similar right to protection will be extended in future in the German Empire to all trade marks properly and legally described and registered by any trading firm in Germany (Articles 1 and 2), such registration to take place on the registers of the Court in whose district the firm concerned carries on business.

The publication of all entries and cancellings of a claim to trade marks is to appear in the Official Gazette ("Deutsche Reichs-Anzeiger"), at the expense of the

parties (Art. 6). Thus every one interested is able to keep himself informed on this head.

As the German Commercial Law of 1861 makes the registration of trading firms within (what has since become) the Empire compulsory, and as the right of protection to trade marks is confined by the new Law to registered trading firms, the proposed arrangement as to registration appears not only simple, but likewise is likely to prove effective.

One fee only is to be charged on the original registration, which is limited to 50 marks (2*l.* 10*s.*) All further modifications, and the cancelling of the entry in the register to be done gratuitously.

Priority of registration confers a prior right (Art. 4). Moreover, trade marks which have been heretofore in use retain a priority of claim if a notice to that effect is made in the register before the 1st of October, 1875 (Arts. 8, 9, and 10).

The right to a particular trade mark may either cease or lapse under certain contingencies (Art. 5), or it may be disputed by some other firm (Arts. 11 and 12). In the latter case, it is probable that the tribunals would have to decide; at any rate, it is provided that a particular trade mark may be struck out of the register.

Article 3 contains a description of instances in which the right to trade marks is to be disallowed, viz., such as consist of letters of the alphabet, numerals, words, or armorial bearings, or of improper (scandalous) designs or emblems.

II. The second portion of the Law (Arts. 13-19) contains the various penalties incurred, as also the damages to which parties infringing another person's rights with regard to trade marks render themselves liable.

The object of Article 16 is to dispense with the obligation of furnishing the Court with exact proof as to the amount of injury sustained.

III. The most important portion of this Law for British interests is Article 20, which defines the mode in which the protection of German Courts of Law may be invoked by parties entitled to claim trade marks in the United Kingdom.

Three conditions are here assigned to such a claim—

1st. That German trade marks should enjoy similar protection in Great Britain.

2ndly. That the special mark should be entitled to recognition in its own country, and then the protection of German law can be invoked for it when proof of this is given, only limiting such right of protection as to length of time and extent to the same time and degree as it may happen to be limited in Great Britain.

The above are simple and natural conditions of reciprocity.

The next and last condition requires all foreigners claiming the protection awarded by this Law for their trade marks in the German Empire, to have these registered at the office of the Commercial Court of Leipzic, and to make a declaration that they accept the jurisdiction of the said Court with regard to the adjudication of all claims arising from their application in this matter.

No doubt a considerable advantage will be thus secured to British manufacturers, as they will be thus able to put down, it is to be hoped, effectually, the adoption of British trade marks by German imitators of their goods, who, by counterfeiting British marks, found numerous opportunities of passing off inferior articles, not only in Africa and America, but also in Europe, nay, even on British soil, for articles of British manufacture.

It remains to be hoped that the parties interested in this matter at home will not neglect the opportunity thus afforded them, but will avail themselves extensively of the power which they may invoke of registering their trade marks at Leipzic.

A practical mode of doing this would seem to be to form a protecting association for that purpose in England, and to select a German lawyer as permanent agent to such an association at Leipzic. Such an agent, with the assistance of a few sub-agents, would soon be able to obtain damages from parties employing or counterfeiting or forging British trade marks in Germany; and a few examples, by putting the Court at Leipzic in motion, would go a great way in exercising a deterrent influence on practices which, by infraction of British rights of property, act most injuriously towards our trade all over the world.

Annex.

Deutsches Reichs Anzeiger No. 293, *Berlin, December* 14, 1874.

(Translation.)

In the Treaty of Commerce between the Zollverein and Great Britain of May 30, 1865, it is stipulated in Article VI:—

"With regard to the marks or labels of goods, or of their packages, and also with regard to patterns and marks of a manufacture and trade, the subjects of the States of the Zollverein shall enjoy in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the subjects of Her Majesty shall enjoy in the States of the Zollverein, the same protection as native subjects."

In accordance with the above stipulation, the illegitimate imitation of British trade marks may be punished within the territories of the Zollverein under section 287 of the German Penal Code.

But as the territories of Bremen and Hamburgh are not comprised within the Zollverein, the prosecution and punishment of offences of this kind committed there to the injury of British subjects, cannot be enforced under Article 287 of the Penal Code, as the penalty attached to them as committed against foreigners pre-supposes a reciprocity of treatment secured either by Treaty or by Law.

But such a supposition does not apply to the relations of the German States here referred to with Great Britain, as the industry of Bremen and Hamburgh cannot invoke the protection secured to the States of the Zollverein by Article VI of the Treaty of May 30, 1865, in Great Britain.

With a view to remedy this dissimilarity of treatment, the Bündesrath has determined, in its sitting of the 28th ultimo, to extend, by means of an exchange of declarations to that effect with the Government of Great Britain, these stipulations to the entire area of the German Empire.

The Senates of Bremen and Hamburgh have signified their agreement to such an arrangement.

Mr. Petre to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Stuttgardt, December* 30, 1874.

I BEG leave to make the following observations on the Reports of the Wurtemberg Chambers of Commerce for the year 1873.

The Reports, which are eight in number, and emanate from the chief commercial and industrial centres in Wurtemberg, are given at the commencement of the publication (page 1 to 81). These are followed by a short summary of the agricultural and industrial results of the year 1873. The remainder and bulk of the work is taken up with a copious analysis, prepared by the Central Department of Trade and Commerce at Stuttgardt, of the various statistical returns which accompanied the Reports of the Chambers.

These Reports, on the whole, exhibit a less favourable picture of the commerce and industry of the country than those of the preceding year. The unfavourable turn dates from the financial crisis which occurred at Vienna in the month of May last, at New York in September, and at Berlin in the following month, and the effects of which still continue to be felt in the scarcity of money, and consequent depression of trade.

As regards agriculture, the harvest of 1873 was considerably below the average; and the vintage, which is an important element of local prosperity, owing to a frost at the end of April, was poor in quality, though not in quantity, except in the more exposed districts, where the vine was not sufficiently forward to suffer from the frost.

One of the chronic disadvantages under which agriculture suffers in this country, is the frequency of severe hailstorms, and the losses occasioned by their exceptional severity in 1873 were officially estimated at no less than 646,000*l.* sterling, affecting an area of about 146,000 English acres. Very little of this heavy loss, which is at the rate of about 6*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population of the kingdom, was insured. A table, which is an instance of the minuteness and care with which statistics relating to agriculture are compiled, will be found at page 95, showing the number of days on which hailstorms occurred, and the acreage affected by them

in each of the forty-six years ending 1873. The average annual acreage of cultivated land which suffered from the above-mentioned cause during this period was 34,811 "morgen" (about 27,000 acres), or 9·4 per 1,000 acres of all land under cultivation; and the annual average damage to the crops was 87,000*l.* sterling. At page 97 will be found a statement, which I annex in translation, of the produce per hectare, and the total produce of cereals in 1872 and 1873. I likewise annex a statement, taken from page 107, relating to the annual production of hops during the last twenty-one years. The total produce in 1873 was 73,733 centners, and, as about 25,000 centners are required for home consumption, the quantity available for exportation last year was 48,000.

The serious and growing deficiency of agricultural labourers is specially mentioned in page 119, and the difficulty which the larger employers of labour experience in satisfying the constantly increasing demands of field hands for higher wages.

I subjoin in translation a return, which may have some interest, of the prices of bread and meat per pound (German) during 1873 in each of the towns which furnished the Reports. These prices, which are now somewhat lower, show a very considerable rise as compared with the previous year.

Passing from agriculture to the manufacturing industry of the country, although some of the minor branches of industry appear to have prospered during the year, the more important ones, such as cotton, woollen, linen, and silk manufactures, suffered much from the general stagnation of trade, and depreciation of prices caused by over production. The depreciation of prices in cotton manufactures was 20 per cent., and in silk as much as 40 per cent.

With regard to the cotton industry, the Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce observes (page 13), on the subject of the petition of the Hanseatic towns to the Federal Council for entire abolition of the duty on yarns, that the union of the cotton industry of Alsace-Lorraine with that of the Zollverein has resulted in enormous overproduction, and a consequent glut of the German markets; prices have fallen to a point at which production has ceased to be remunerative. In opposition,

however, to the conclusions of the South German Cotton Industry Association, the Stuttgardt Chamber is opposed to the suggestion to substitute an *ad valorem* duty for the present duty by weight for the purpose of protecting the home manufacture of the finer textiles and yarns, and of encouraging the adjustment of a portion of the existing machinery to the manufacture of the finer sorts. The Chamber is of opinion that, as a glut of the finer as well as of the coarser kinds exists in Germany, this measure would afford no relief whatever; and it is opposed to any change in the duties until the trade has had time to recover by natural process from the depression resulting from the admission of the manufactures of Alsace-Lorraine to the markets of Germany.

The condition of the working classes during the year in question is described (page 90) as prosperous, even in comparison with the previous year. The former high wages were generally maintained, though, it is added, few of the recipients appear to have taken advantage of the vast improvement in their material condition to lay by anything for future contingencies, or have desisted from pressing their demands for a further increase. With the exception of the journeymen printers' strike, no organized strike occurred in any trade during the year, but the relations between employers and workmen are described in the Report of the Stuttgardt Chamber as anything but satisfactory. The following passage is extracted (page 360) from the Report:—

"The sound sense of the working classes is becoming more and more obscured by the systematic efforts made to mislead them into hostility towards capital, under the pretext of oppression and great injustice. Worked upon for party purposes, as shown in the elections which have taken place from time to time, a feeling of mistrust has gradually sprung up, and developed to an extent which gives just ground for fearing that not only production will suffer from the growing complications, but that social order in general may be placed in peril.'

The Heidenheim Chamber of Commerce, whilst admitting the truth of the description, denies that the remedy is to be sought in exceptional legislation, but rather in the benevolent efforts of employers themselves to educate the youthful portion of the labouring classes in sounder principles of political economy.

The following extract from the monetary article in the summary (page 88) is perhaps worthy of notice :—

"The calculation that the French milliards would materially increase the national wealth has proved deceptive. They have been partly devoted to unproductive purposes, partly to filling up the gaps occasioned by the war in previously existing capital, and the only advantage to the national prosperity has been the negative one of sparing the imposition of new burdens. Only a small remnant of these milliards has become available as additional capital. They have failed in a similar degree to promote trade and industry."

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PETRE.

Inclosure 1.

STATEMENT showing the Produce of Cereals in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, in Hectolitres and Centners, in 1873, as compared with 1872.

Cereals.	Average produce per hectare in hectolitres.		Years.	Weight of the hectolitre in pounds.	Average sown in hectares.	Total Produce.	
	1852-66.	1873.				In hectolitres.	Centners.
Winter spelt	36·89	28·76	1872	81	202,944	7,215,249	5,862,537
			1873	82	200,726	5,773,705	4,723,832
Summer spelt	26·35	19·17	1872	81	1,339	33,969	27,600
			1873	82	1,383	26,483	21,667
Oats	25·92	25·08	1872	93	131,151	3,342,667	3,122,067
			1873	93	130,136	3,260,328	3,035,408
Winter barley	21·37	18·95	1872	124	1,639	33,056	40,848
			1873	123	1,697	32,181	39,584
Summer barley	22·04	19·40	1872	129	94,105	2,087,122	2,696,839
			1873	130	95,632	1,852,988	2,415,218
Winter rye	16·31	14·00	1872	137	34,433	565,753	773,527
			1873	136	34,035	476,671	649,198
Summer rye	14·96	13·21	1872	133	6,742	97,570	129,927
			1873	131	6,839	90,302	118,473
Winter wheat	17·94	14·62	1872	143	10,262	177,809	254,836
			1873	144	10,382	151,812	218,433
Summer wheat	15·01	15·35	1872	137	3,687	53,973	74,003
			1873	138	4,421	67,943	93,542
Winter meslin, or mixture (half spelt, half rye)	26·60	20·87	1872	99	19,768	490,980	487,904
			1873	101	19,842	414,121	419,299
Summer meslin (half vetches, half oats)	25·92	26·25	1872	123	12,782	311,105	381,801
			1873	123	12,923	339,170	416,245
Millet	25·92	27·95	1872	127	152	4,213	5,348
			1873		159	4,455	5,657
Buckwheat	25·92	23·95	1872	127	42	1,203	1,528
			1873		31	735	934

Inclosure 2.

STATEMENT showing the Extent and Produce of Hop Cultivation in Wurtemberg in each of the 21 years from 1853 to 1873.

Years.	Acreage in cultivation in hectares.	Per-centage of whole acreage under tillage.	Total produce in centners.	Produce per hectare in centners.	Quality.*
1853.. ..	820·7	0·10	9,778	7·91	3·02
1854.. ..	873·0	0·10	2,227	2·55	3·60
1855.. ..	706·9	0·08	10,572	14·96	2·27
1856.. ..	820·7	0·10	8,255	10·06	2·63
1857.. ..	873·0	0·10	11,664	13·34	2·75
1858.. ..	975·5	0·11	7,979	8·18	3·30
1859.. ..	1,085·5	0·13	16,850	15·52	2·72
1860.. ..	1,304·5	0·15	13,138	10·07	3·40
1861.. ..	1,664·1	0·19	15,903	9·56	3·40
1862.. ..	1,875·3	0·22	32,969	17·58	2·65
1863.. ..	2,200·2	0·26	31,307	14·24	3·09
1864.. ..	2,484·2	0·29	30,668	12·35	3·20
1865.. ..	2,966·4	0·34	39,742	13·40	2·60
1866.. ..	3,800·7	0·44	34,623	9·11	3·50
1867.. ..	4,665·2	0·54	78,256	16·78	2·10
1868.. ..	5,142·7	0·60	81,634	15·87	3·00
1869.. ..	5,030·5	0·58	39,773	7·91	3·50
1870.. ..	5,118·1	0·59	70,692	13·81	3·00
1871.. ..	4,769·9	0·55	36,404	7·63	2·50
1872.. ..	4,813·9	0·56	60,702	12·61	3·30
1873.. ..	4,900·3	0·57	73,733	15·04	2·80
Average of 21 years.	2,709·5	0·31	33,659	12·42	2·97

* The degrees of quality are indicated by the following figures: 1 is first rate, 2 very good, 3 good, 4 middling, 5 inferior. The decimals show the approximation to the class below.

Inclosure 3.

PRICES of Bread and Meat per lb. in Eight Towns in Wurtemberg in 1873.

Towns.	White Bread.	Black Bread.	Beef.	Pork.	Veal.
	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	d. *d.*	*d.* *d.*	*d.* *d.*	*d.* *d.*	*d.* *d.*
Stuttgardt	1½ to 2½	1⅔ to 2⅓	7½ to 8½	7 to 8½	6⅔ to 8
Heilbronn	1⅓ 2¼	1⅓ 1¾	7 7½	6¾ 8	6¾ 7½
Ulm	2*d.*	..	7½ 8	7 8¼	5¼ 6¾
Reutlingen	1½ 2¼	1½ 1¾	6¾ 7½	6 7¾	6 6¾
Calw	1⅔ 2¼	..	7½ 8	7 7¾	6 6¾
Heidenheim	1½ 2	1¼ 1¾	7½*d.*	8*d.*	6¾*d.*
Ravensburg	1½ 1½	1¼ 1½	6¾ 7	6¾ 8	5¼ 6¾
Rottweil	2 2¼	1½ 1¾	7½ 8	7½ 8	6 7½

Sweden.

Report by Mr. Gould on the Finances of Sweden in 1874.

General review of the financial position of Sweden.

The finances of Sweden can compare favourably with those of almost any other State in the present day.

Smallness of the debt.

The Swedish Foreign Debt only dates from 1855, and, including the Home Debt, is so inconsiderable in amount that the total would be more than covered by the ordinary revenues of two years. Moreover, provision is made in the Budget by means of a Sinking Fund for the extinction of each successive loan forty years after the date of its emission.

Provision made for gradually reducing it.

Proceeds of loans exclusively applied to State Railways.

The money raised in this way has been exclusively applied to the gradual construction of such main lines of railway communication as were most urgently needed by the country. These State lines, although yet far from completed, will, it is estimated, yield in 1875 a net return nearly equal to four-fifths of all the charges on the outlay in the shape of both interest and sinking fund.

Amount of debt actually reduced.

The total amount of the National Debt, funded as well as unfunded, has, at the same time, been somewhat reduced of late, and that, notwithstanding a considerable increase in the expenditure of most of the Departments of the Public Administration, and in the sums voted for the continuation of the works on the State railways. It therefore follows that the apparent additions made to the National Debt by the sale of a portion of the bonds of the last loan issued in 1872, have merely resulted in a partial conversion of the former Five per Cent. Stocks into Four per Cent. Bonds of this new loan.

Improvement effected in national credit.

In other words, the national credit of Sweden has so far improved, that whereas Sweden had formerly to borrow at the nominal rate of 5 per cent., she has recently been able to raise money at the actual rate of less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the issue price of both descriptions of stock having generally been about the same.

Causes which have led to it.

This gratifying result is due to the sudden and extraordinary development of the trade and industry of the country, caused in a great measure by the increased demand for, and enhanced value of, its principal products, wood and iron.

Great increase in the national revenue.

The national revenues have also rapidly risen, and have of late years almost always been in excess of their estimated amount. The receipts of the National Exchequer in the estimates for 1874 were calculated at 16½ per cent. above those of 1873, and again, the estimates for 1875 show a further similar increase of 16½ per cent. over those of 1874. It is therefore estimated that the receipts in 1875 will produce close upon an additional million sterling, a sum equal to more than a third of the entire revenue in 1873. With respect to 1874, there can no longer be any doubt as to the accuracy of these calculations, the total estimated amount of receipts having already been exceeded before the expiration of the first nine months of this year.

Possibility of estimated increase for 1875 not being realized.

It is almost too early to hazard an opinion as regards the estimated increase in 1875. However, there are several unfavourable circumstances at the present time to be taken into account. They could not have been foreseen when these estimates were framed at the end of 1873, and they would seem to point to the possibility of some falling off in one at least of the chief sources of the revenue, and that is the Customs. They furnish nearly one-third of the total, and depend solely on the imports, no duties being levied on the exports. During the current year the importation has been excessive, whilst the principal articles of exportation have not only slightly declined in quantity, but also very materially depreciated in value. Owing to the great demand for, and consequent scarcity of labour, the sudden and serious fall in the price of timber, the chief staple of the country, has not so far been followed by any decrease in the cost of production. The harvest has likewise, in some respects, proved deficient, and is, on the whole, below the average. Then, again, it is to be feared that the enormous profits realized within the last few years may have led to over-speculation. Should such be really the case, a commercial crisis of more or less intensity, might not improbably supervene under the present adverse balance of trade. Nevertheless,

Probable falling off in the receipts from the Customs, and causes which may lead thereto.

even if any or all of the before-mentioned circumstances were to affect the public revenue unfavourably, the check in their progressive increase would, in all probability, prove to be neither of serious import nor of long duration, for few European States possess such great and varied natural resources, still so imperfectly developed.

System of taxation both antiquated and complicated, yet yielding but small returns.

The system of taxation which obtains in Sweden is as antiquated as it is complex. Taxes are paid in every conceivable form, in money, in kind, by personal service, and by the discharge of certain obligations towards the State. In like manner they are raised on land, on agricultural produce, on incomes, whether derived from capital or from trade, on mines, on stamps, on vessels, on exemptions from certain obligations towards the State, and finally, even on persons in the shape of a Poll Tax. There are over twenty different kinds of taxes, yet added together they scarcely yield a sum equal to one-fifth of the total receipts of the State. Most of these taxes are of very ancient origin, and have, up to the present, undergone but slight modifications. Mr. Jocelyn, in his Report last year on Swedish finance, describes in great detail the history, mode of assessment, and amount of each of these taxes, and therefore it is unnecessary to enter into further particulars with regard to this part of the subject.

Refers to last year's Financial Report for further details.

Other charges on land.

There are, however, several other charges on land which deserve to be specially noticed, though they do not appear in the estimates.

Manner in which the "Indetta" is partly maintained.

The "Indetta," or National Militia, for instance, is partly maintained by a certain class of landed proprietors at an annual cost to them, vaguely estimated at about 250,800*l*. They are divided into three categories:—

1. By the "Rotte" estates supplying the infantry of the "Indetta."

The first hold their estates on condition of furnishing an infantry soldier to the "Indetta," such soldier having to be approved of by the military authorities before being enlisted. The bounty on enlistment, a small annual pay, and a cottage with the necessary outhouses and a plot of land suitable for cultivation, have all to be provided. When called out for drill or for duty the soldier's expenses are borne by the State, which has also to arm and equip him. There are 20,376 estates or portions of estates ("rotte") held on these terms; and, as the yearly cost on an average to each is calcu-

Number of the "Rotte," and amount paid by them

singly and collectively.

lated to amount to about 7*l.* 4*s.*, it follows, that altogether they (the "Rotte") contribute in this way about 150,000*l.* per annum.

2. "Rusthäll," estates supplying the cavalry of the "Indetta."

The estates which come under the second category are called "Rusthäll," and have each to furnish to the "Indetta" a cavalry soldier, with his horse, both fully equipped. In point of fact, they do not all do so; but, such as do not, furnish an infantry soldier on the same conditions as those previously described in the case of the "Rotte." They have, however, either to pay as a tax to the State the difference in cost between the two, or to proxide the Artillery of the standing army with a horse during the military manœuvres. There are 6,505 estates held under these conditions, the average annual charge to each being estimated at about 20*l.*, or 130,000*l.* for the whole number.

Number of the "Rusthäll," and amount paid by them singly and collectively.

Number of men furnished by the "Rotte" and the "Rusthäll."

The actual number of men furnished to the "Indetta" by both these categories is, however, only 24,083, for, instead of providing men, 2,074 of the first, and 724 of the second category, are made to contribute a part of the pay of the non-commissioned officers and bandsmen of that force.

Length of service in the "Indetta."

After thirty years' service in the infantry and cavalry, or twenty-five in the light infantry, privates in the "Indetta" become entitled to a pension, but out of what funds their pensions are paid is not clear.

"Extra Rotte," estates supplying infantry soldiers to the "Indetta" only in time of war.

There are, besides, 2,671 estates belonging to the third category, and known as "Extra Rotte." These can only be required to supply the "Indetta" with infantry soldiers in time of war, but in that case they have likewise to provide the necessary clothing, which the first category, or "Rotte," are exempted from.

Describes how the "Indetta" officers are provided for.

Before proceeding further with this Report, it may be as well to add that the officers of the "Indetta" are paid out of the proceeds of certain estates belonging to the Crown, in other words, to the State. Officers of the higher regimental grades have separate estates allotted to them for their maintenance, whilst the others, according to their rank, have to share in common the revenues of the estates set apart for them. The result is that, owing to a variety of causes, the greatest inequalities have gradually arisen between the position of officers in different parts of the country. Whereas in some regiments located in the southern provinces the officers

derive larger incomes from their estates than would correspond to the pay of their rank in the standing army, others, especially in the more northern regiments, are so badly off that, to eke out their existence, they are often compelled to accept odd jobs, or to go into business as merchants, steam-boat agents, ship brokers, &c.

"Kronaboställen," estates charged with the part payment of certain civil salaries.

Besides the three categories of estates or holdings previously described, there is another called "Kronaboställen," which are held subject to the part payment of the salaries of a considerable number of Government officials. It is impossible to state, even approximately, what sum is thus contributed towards the public expenditure.

Intricacy of the public accounts, and causes thereof

Nowhere is a complete and general statement of the national revenue and expenditure of Sweden to be met with, not even in officially compiled Swedish works. This fact is easily accounted for by the extreme intricacy of the public accounts, which are kept by two distinct officers totally independent of each other, and also probably to some extent by local authorities, since, as already stated, there are certain items which do not appear in the estimates.

"Statskontor," or National Exchequer.

The most important of these two offices is the "Statskontor," or National Exchequer, under the control of the Minister of Finance, who is directly accountable to the Diet. The estimates of this office must be drawn up at an interval of no less than thirteen or fourteen months before they are to come into operation, for they are presented to the Diet in the first half of January of the preceding year, and voted before the end of the following May. Thus the estimates for 1875 were passed in the early part of the present year. The inconveniences of such a course are too evident to require comment, and have already attracted public attention.

Estimates prepared thirteen to fourteen months before date.

Revenue of National Exchequer. Distinction between ordinary and extraordinary receipts.

The revenues of the National Exchequer consist of the ordinary receipts and the grants (Bevillningar), or, as they are sometimes called, the extraordinary receipts. Since the Diet has assumed complete control over the finances of the country, the distinction between the two is more theoretical than real. It would seem that, while the former continue as heretofore to be raised, or rather recovered, directly by the Crown, synonymous in Sweden for the State, as constituting its fixed income, the latter,

as their very name indicates, have annually to be voted by the Diet, which thus asserts its right to dispose of the resources of the nation.

Relative proportion between direct and indirect taxes.

Of the total receipts the indirect taxes, such as the Customs and Excise, furnish nearly 50 per cent., and the various direct taxes over 20 per cent., the remainder being made up by the gross proceeds of the State railways, Post Office, and telegraphs.

Expenditure of National Exchequer.

The expenditure of the National Exchequer includes all the disbursements of the State, with the exception of the service of the public debt, the expenses of the Diet, loans granted for special objects, and a few other items of secondary importance.

"Riksgäldskontoret," or Public Debt Office; its constitution and functions.

The "Riksgäldskontoret," or Public Debt Office, is under the direct control of the Diet, and administered in its name by a committee of members of both the Upper and Lower Houses of that body. The members of this committee are elected by it for certain stated periods, and receive salaries during their terms of office. The "Riksgäldskontoret" is an institution peculiar to Sweden, and, under the altered circumstances of the country, has become a perfect anomaly, which must soon disappear. It was originally set up by the Diet as a barrier against the then almost absolute power of the Sovereigns, and as a means of retaining in its hands some control over such extraordinary subsidies as it was called upon to vote. It now at best only serves the purpose of a Public Debt Office as well as an Audit Office.

Estimates of Public Debt Office.

The estimates of the "Riksgäldskontoret" nominally extend over a period of nineteen and a-half months, that is to say from the 15th of May to the end of the following year, but practically they are annually submitted to the Diet, though always for the above-mentioned term. This circumstance alone would suffice to show the difficulty of arriving at any definite conclusions as regards the real state of the Swedish finances, since the estimates of the National Exchequer only extend over a period of twelve months, beginning with the 1st of January and ending with the 31st of December.

Revenue of Public Debt Office.

The receipts of the "Riksgäldskontoret" now consist, first, of whatever surplus there may be on the estimated receipts of the National Exchequer, as well as of whatever savings may be effected on the expenditure

of that office; secondly, of all repayments of advances made by the Diet, and of the interest thereon; thirdly, of the profits realized by the National Bank; and, finally, of the proceeds of all loans issued by the State.*

Expenditure of Public Debt Office.

The expenditure of the "Riksgäldskontoret" comprises, first, whatever payments may be requisite to meet the estimated deficit in the budget of the "Statskontor," or National Treasury; secondly, whatever advances or subsidies may be voted by the Diet; thirdly, all charges connected with the Public Debt, whether funded or unfunded; fourthly, the payment of an annuity to the King, granted to His Majesty's immediate predecessors by the Diet in consideration of the large amount of private capital disbursed by them for public objects; and, finally, all the expenses of the Diet, together with those of the office itself.

Nominal nature of transactions between National Exchequer and Public Debt Office.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the transactions between these two offices must to a great extent be merely nominal, and that the two might easily be amalgamated without any disadvantage to the State, or at least subordinated one to the other. The necessity for some change in the present system is fully admitted, but nevertheless there seems no immediate prospect of any attempt being made to bring it about.

Budget, surplus on estimates, 1873-74.

The receipts of the National Exchequer in the year 1873 exceeded the estimates by 11,700,000 kronors, or 650,000*l.*, and the apparent deficit of 970,855 kronors, or 198,380*l.*, by 2,729,145 kronors, or 151,620*l.*

Certainty of a surplus on estimates for 1874.

The estimates for the current year (1874), although allowance is made in them for an increase of 16½ per cent., will probably show a still larger surplus. They had, as previously stated, already been exceeded before the expiration of the first nine months of the year. At the end of September last the State railways had produced 10,498,970 kronors, or 583,276*l.*, thus exceeding the estimated returns for the whole year by close upon 1,000,000 kronors, about 55,500*l.* At the same rate they would yield a surplus of 4,500,000 kronors, or 250,000*l.*, by the end of the year. The receipts of the Stockholm Custom-house during the first nine months of this year amounted to 9,063,120 kronors (503,506*l.*),

* Since last year the produce of the "Allmän Bevillning," or general contribution, seems to be no longer paid into this office.

an increase on the same period of last year of nearly 50 per cent. It has been found that the receipts of the Customs at Stockholm generally constitute about a third of the total amount for the whole Kingdom, which, according to the latest published returns, had at the end of last July already reached the sum of 14,493,177 kronors (805,176*l.*); therefore, at the lowest calculation, the receipts under this head ought to furnish over 24,000,000 kronors (1,333,333*l.*), or a surplus over the estimates of between 7,000,000 kronors and 8,000,000 kronors (388,000*l.* and 433,000*l.*). The Excise, however, both on brandy and on beetroot sugar, has up to the present shown a considerable falling off in comparison to last year, about 11 per cent., still it is not sufficiently important seriously to affect the general result, which will undoubtedly show a surplus of revenue as large as, if not larger, than that of 1873.

State of the Public Debt at the end of 1873. Vide Table No. 1.

A few words on the state and amount of the public debt of Sweden at the close of last year may not be amiss before proceeding to analyze the estimates for 1875. At that date the total indebtedness of the State amounted to 122,078,497 kr. (6,782,138*l.*), showing a total reduction during the year of 2,683,009 kr. (149,061*l.*); but, if to this latter sum is added the amount (6,925,500 kr. = 384,750*l.*) disbursed for the continuation of the works on the State lines, it will be seen that the actual improvement in the financial position of the State came to 6,608,599 kr. (533,811*l.*) Moreover, there remained owing to the State at the same date for temporary advances for private railways, and other objects of a similar nature, a sum of 26,456,842 kr. (1,496,842*l.*), which, being set off against the debt, would further reduce it to 95,621,655 kr. (5,312,314*l.*) Again, the latter amount would be more than covered by the value of the State lines, on which 132,605,248 kr. (7,366,958*l.*) had already been laid out at that date.

Total amount of debt contracted since 1855, and of reductions effected therein.

Between 1855 and the end of 1873, Sweden had raised by means of nine separate loans a total nominal amount of 143,937,493 kr. (7,996,527*l.*) By the 31st of December, 1873, this amount had been reduced to 116,248,806 kr. (6,458,267*l.*) The net proceeds of the above loans only came to 131,535,248 kr. (7,307,513*l.*), thus showing that the average price at which they were

issued must have been about 90. By adding together the various sums disbursed on account of the State lines and advanced to private railway companies, &c., as well as the reductions effected in the amount of the public debt, and the outstanding balance in the National Bank (2,050,210 kr. = 114,178*l.*) to the credit of the State, and by deducting from the total thus obtained the net aggregate proceeds of the State loans, as also the existing floating or unfunded debt (5,829,691 kr. = 323,871*l.*), it will be seen that in the course of about eighteen years (from 1855 to 1874) the revenue of Sweden must have exceeded her ordinary expenditure by 51,441,048 kr. (2,857,836*l.*) Although, owing to the difficulty of collecting all the necessary data, this calculation is merely approximate, it may assist in placing beyond doubt the brilliant condition of the Swedish finances, in the administration of which as much prudence as skill have been displayed.

Appended to this Report will be found a series of Tables, numbered from 1 to 8, and drawn up for reference. They give both in detail and in a condensed form the estimates for 1875, besides containing a statement of the position of the public debt at the close of 1873. They are based on the data furnished to the Swedish Diet during the last Session; but, with the object of giving a clearer and more comprehensive review of the national finances, the form in which the official estimates are drawn up has not always been strictly adhered to.*

Estimates for 1875. Increase in both Receipts and Expenses.

The estimates for 1875 show, as before stated, an increase of 16½ per cent., or 9,238,450 kr. (513,247*l.*) in the receipts of the National Treasury ("Statskontor"), and of 19 per cent., or 11,499,248 kr., in the expenditure of that department.

Receipts of National Exchequer. Vide Table No. 2.

As regards these receipts, the total amount of which is 64,775,000 kr. (3,598,611*l.*), the most important items

* 1. Debt of Sweden in 1873.
Estimates for 1875—
2. Detailed Statement of Receipts of National Exchequer.
3. Ditto of Public Debt Office.
4. Total Revenue.
5. Detailed Statement of Expenditure of National Exchequer.
6. Ditto of Public Debt Office.
7. Total Expenditure.
8. Total Revenue and Expenditure compared and balanced.

are—the Customs (19,500,000 kr. = 1,083,333*l.*); the State railways (gross returns, 14,000,000 kr. = 777,777*l.*; net returns, 5,6000,000 kr. = 311,111*l.*); the Excise on spirits (12,000,000 kr. = 666,666*l.*); and the "Ranta," or land tax (4,501,500 kr. = 250,033*l.*) The largest increase is noticed in the State railways (47 per cent.), Customs (18 per cent.), stamps (39 per cent.), and Post Office (21 per cent.) Many items remain at the same figure as last year, and but one, Royalties on mines, shows a decrease.

Receipts of National Debt Office. Vide Table No. 3.

The resources at the disposal of the Public Debt Office ("Riksgäldskontoret") during 1875 are estimated at 18,144,245 kr. (1,083,013*l.*) This amount is make up by—(1) the balance in the National Bank carried over from the preceding year 4,159,444⅓ kr. (231,080*l.*); (2) repayments of advances and interest thereon 4,179,883⅔ kr. (233,215*l.*); (3) other repayments, 1,083,320 kr. (60,184*l.*); (4) residue of profits of the National Bank for 1873, 500,000 kr. (27,777*l.*); (5) proceeds of new loan 8,203,600 kr. (455,755*l.*)

Total Receipts Vide Table No. 4.

The receipts of these two departments added together, therefore, produce a total revenue of 82,919,245 kr. (4,606,624*l.*), or, exclusive of the amount to be raised by loan, of 74,715,645 kr. (4,150,869*l.*)

Expenditure of National Exchequer. Vide Table No. 5.

The expenditure of the National Treasury ("Statskontor") for ordinary purposes amounts to 62,600,798 kr. (3,366,711*l.*), and including the proposed outlay on the State railways, to 71,815,798 kr. (3,993,655*l.*), being, as already mentioned, an increase of 19 per cent. on the preceding estimates. The most considerable items of expenditure are—(1) the army, 15,548,369 kr. (863,798*l.*)—this is inclusive of all but a small portion of the expenses of the National Militia ("Indetta"); (2) the Civil Service, 13,059,206 kr. (725,511*l.*); (3) the Financial Administration, 10,703,891 kr. (594,660*l.*); (4) the State railways, 9,285,000 kr. (515,833*l.*); (5) and public worship and education, 8,692,436 kr. (482,913*l.*) The most marked increase has occurred—(1) in the Civil Service (45¼ per cent.), owing to large additions having recently been made to the salaries of most of the civil servants of the State; (2) in the Department of Public Worship and Education (35 per cent.); (3) in the Financial Administration (18 per cent.); (4) in the Navy (16¼ per cent.); (5) and also in the

Department of Justice (25 per cent.) The increase in the expenditure is general, though of comparatively small amount as regards several items.

Expenditure of Public Debt Office. Vide Table No. 6.

The total estimated disbursements of the Public Debt Office ("Riksgäldskontoret") amount to 18,144,245 kronors, equal 1,008,013*l.*, including temporary advances to private railway companies of a sum of 2,000,000 kronors, equal 111,111*l.* They consist of the following items :—

1. Annuity to the King, 300,000 kronors, equal 16,666*l.*

2. Service of the existing Public Debt, 7,674,655 kronors, equal 426,369*l.*

3. Advances to private railways, 2,000,000 kronors, equal 111,111*l.*

4. Expenses of the Diet and the Public Debt Office, 554,000 kronors, equal 30,777*l.*

5. Estimated deficit in the Budget of the National Treasury ("Statskontor"), 7,110,798 kronors, equal 395,044*l.*

6. Interest on loan to be issued, 504,792 kronors, equal 28,044*l.*

Total Expenditure. Vide Table No. 7.

The total expenditure of these two Departments consequently comes to exactly the same amount as their total revenues, 82,919,245 kronors, equal 4,606,624*l.*

Summary. Vide Table No. 8.

As proved in the last of the series of Tables (No. 8), the ordinary revenue under all heads exceeds the ordinary expenditure by 3,586,192 kronors, equal 199,233*l.*, to which should also be added the 2,000,000 kronors, equal 111,111*l.*, about to be advanced at interest to private railway companies. Thus it will be seen that the apparent deficit to be covered by the amount of the proposed new loan is, in reality, after providing for the extraordinary outlay on the State railways, not, as would appear from the estimates, 8,200,600 kronors, equal 455,755*l.*, but only about 2,300,000 kronors, equal 129,444*l.*

(Signed) G. L. GOULD.

Stockholm, November 16, 1874.

(No. 1.)—Public Debt of Sweden in 1873.

	Amount on 1st January.		Interest and Sinking Fund.		Amount on 31st December.		Amount actually paid off during 1873.	
	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£
Funded Debt	116,769,471	6,487,192	6,728,897	373,827	116,248,806	6,458,267	*520,665	28,926
Unfunded Debt	7,992,125	444,007	..	..	5,829,691	323,871	2,162,434	120,135
Total	124,761,596	6,931,199	6,728,897	373,827	122,078,497	6,782,138	2,683,099	149,061

* The above sum is the actual difference between the amount of the Funded Debt on the 1st of January and the 31st of December. The sum set apart as Sinking Fund came to 1,222,608 kronors (equal 67,922*l.*), and the amount actually paid off to 1,180,442 kronors (equal 65,580*l.*); but from this has to be deducted a fresh addition to the debt of 659,777 kronors (equal 36,654*l.*).

(No. 2.)—Estimates for 1875.

	Estimated Amount in 1875.		Increase on Estimates of 1874.		Increase per cent.
Receipts of the Ministry of Finance—	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£	
Ordinary receipts—					
Land Tax ("Ränta")	4,501,500	250,083	...	...	...
Tithes ("Tiende")	1,618,300	89,905	...	...	...
Tax on Crown lands ("Arrendemedel")	451,200	25,066	16,200	900	+ 3½
			Decrease.		
Royalties on mines ("Bergverkstionde")	55,000	3,055	38,000	2,111	− 40⅔
Poll Tax ("Mantalspenningar") ...	575,000	31,944	...	...	...
Proceeds of fines ("Bötesmedel") ...	180,000	10,000	20,000	1,111	+ 12½
Payments by certain "Indetta" Cavalry Regiments ("Hästvakauss-panmal")	294,367⅓	16,353	...	...	...
Proceeds of various small taxes ...	245,000	13,611	...	...	...
Light-house dues ("Fyr och Bäk-medel")	800,000	44,444	...	...	...
State telegraphs	1,180,000	65,555	120,000	6,666	+ 11⅓
State railways	14,000,000	777,777	4,500,000	250,000	+ 47
Crown forests	1,000,000	55,555	300,000	16,666	+ 42⅞
Supplementary receipts...	234,632½	13,035	171,800	9,544	+ 273½
Total	25,135,000	1,396,388	5,090,000	282,777	+ 25¼
Extraordinary receipts—					
Customs	19,500,000	1,083,333	3,000,000	166,666	+ 18
Post Office	3,400,000	188,888	600,000	33,333	+ 21
Stamps	1,880,000	104,444	530,000	29,444	+ 39
Excise on spirits...	12,000 000	666,666	...	...	...
Ditto on beetroot sugar...	60,000	3,333	...	...	...
General contribution ("Allmän bevill-ning")	2,800,000	155,555	171,800	9,544	+ 6
Total	64,775,000	3,598,611	*9,238,150	*513,247	+ 16⅛

* The apparent discrepancy in the total estimated increase is caused by the disappearance from these estimates of an item of 153,350 kroners (equal 8,519*l.*) which figured in those for 1874.

(No. 3.)—Receipts of the Public Debt Office ("Riksgälds-Kontoret").

	Kronor.	£
Balance to the credit of the Public Debt Office in the National Bank at the beginning of 1875	4,159,441⅓	231,080
Re-payments of advances, together with interest accruing thereon	4,197,883⅔	233,215
Re-payments of capital and interest on account of certain subventions	1,083,320	60,184
Residue of the profits of the National Bank for 1873	500,000	27,777
Proceeds of new loans	8,203,600	455,755
Total	18,144,245	1,008,013

(No. 4.)—Total Revenue under all Heads.

	Kronor.	£
Ministry of Finance—		
Ordinary receipts	25,135,000	1,396,388
Extraordinary receipts	39,640,000	2,202,222
Total	64,775,000	3,598,611
Public Debt Office—		
Balance from 1874	4,159,441⅓	231,080
Repayments of loans and interest thereon, &c.	5,781,203⅔	321,177
New loans	8,203,600	455,755
Total	82,919,245	4,606,624

(No. 5.)—Expenditure under the Control of the Ministry of Finance.

	Ordinary Expenditure.		Extraordinary Expenditure.		Total.		Increase on 1874.	
	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£	Kronor.	£	£	Per cent.
Civil List	1,266,000	70,333	..	..	1,266,000	70,333	..	..
Justice	3,340,400	185,577	556,669	30,926	3,897,069	216,503	54,976	25
Foreign Affairs*	609,365	33,853	..	..	609,365	33,853	315	¾
War	11,710,400	650,577	3,837,969	213,220	15,548,369	863,798	22,614	2½
Navy	4,459,100	247,727	2,337,725	129,873	6,796,825	377,601	52,862	16¼
Civil Service	11,591,500	643,972	1,467,706	81,539	13,059,206	725,511	226,489	45¼
Financial Administration	10,498,000	583,222	205,891	11,438	10,703,891	594,660	94,893	18¾
Public Worship and Education	6,822,900	379,050	1,869,536	103,863	8,692,436	482,913	125,593	35
Pensions	1,539,135	85,507	488,500	27,138	2,027,635	112,646	1,334	1
Railways	..	..	9,285,000	515,833	9,285,000	515,833	59,766	13
Total	51,836,800	2,879,822	20,048,998	1,113,833	71,885,798	3,993,655	638,847	19

* Norway contributes 304,735 kronors (16,929*l.*) to the expenses of this Department, so that the total is 914,100 kronors (50,783*l.*).

(No. 6.)—Expenditure under the control of the Public Debt Office ("Riksgälds-Kontoret").

	Kronor.	£
Annuity to the King	300,000*	16,666
Interest and sinking funds on funded and other loans	7,674,655	426,369
Advances to private railways	2,000,000	111,111
Expenses of the Diet, &c.	455,000	25,277
Expenses of the Public Debt Office ..	99,000	5,500
Sum to be advanced to the Treasury to cover estimated deficit	7,110,798	395,044
Interest on new loans	504,792	28,044
Total	18,144,245	1,008,013

* This annuity is considered a debt due by the nation to the Royal Family, being the interest on certain private capital laid out by His Majesty's direct ancestors for the benefit of the country.

(No. 7.)—Total Expenditure under all heads.

	Kronor.	£
Civil List	1,266,000	70,333
Army and Navy	22,345,194	1,241,399
Civil Service in all its branches	37,515,969	2,084,220
Payments on account of National Debt, &c. .	8,479,447	471,080
Pensions	2,027,635	112,646
Total	71,624,245	3,979,680
Sums required during the year to continue the works on the State Railways ..	9,285,000	515,833
Sums advanced to private Railways ..	2,000,000	111,111
Total	82,919,245	4,606,624

(No. 8.)—Balance.

Receipts.	Kronor.	£	Expenditure.	Kronor.	£
Customs	19,500,000	1,083,333	Civil List	1,266,000	70,333
Excise	12,060,000	670,000	Justice	3,897,069	216,503
Stamps	1,880,000	104,444	Foreign Affairs	609,365	33,853
Taxes on land, &c.	9,844,168	546,898	Army	15,548,369	863,798
Post	3,400,000	188,888	Navy	6,796,825	377,601
Telegraphs	1,180,000	65,555	Civil Service	13,059,206	725,511
State Railways	14,000,000	777,777	Financial Administration	10,703,891	594,660
Crown lands, &c.	1,451,200	80,622	Public Worship and Education	8,692,436	482,913
Miscellaneous	1,459,632	81,090	Pensions	2,027,635	112,646
Surplus from 1874	4,159,441⅓	231,080	Interest and sinking fund on debts	7,974,655	443,036
Repayments of loans, &c.	5,781,203⅔	321,177	Other charges	554,002	30,777
Total	74,715,645	4,150,869	Total	71,129,453	3,951,636
Extraordinary resources—			Extraordinary expenditure—		
			Public Works (State Railways)	9,285,000	515,833
			Advances to private railways	2,000,000	111,111
Proceeds of new loan	8,203,600	455,755	Interest and sinking fund on new debt ..	504,792	28,044
Total	82,919,245	4,606,624	Total	92,919,245	4,606,624

Recapitulation.

	Kronor.	£		Kronor.	£
Ordinary Revenue	74,715,645	4,150,869	Extraordinary Expenditure—		
Ordinary Expenditure	71,129,453	3,951,636	For carrying on works on State Railways ..	9,285,000	515,833
			Advances to private railways	2,000,000	111,111
Surplus	3,586,192	199,233			
Proceeds of new loan, minus interest, &c., thereon.	7,698,808	427,711			
Total available for extraordinary purposes ..	11,285,000	626,944	Total	11,285,000	626,944

United States.

Report by Mr. Pakenham on the Commerce of the United States during the Year 1873.

For the cotton year 1872-3, ending September 1, 1873, the entire production reaches 3,930,508 bales, while the exports are 2,679,986 bales, and the home consumption 1,201,127 bales, leaving the stock on hand, September 1, 90,989 bales. The total receipts at the Atlantic and Gulf shipping ports have been 3,651,346 bales, against 2,732,286 bales for the previous year. The shipments from Tennessee, &c., direct to the manufacturers have been 141,500 bales, against 122,065 bales in the previous year, and 137,662 bales have been manufactured in the South against 120,000 bales for the cotton year of 1871-72.

Of the cotton crop, 26,289 bales have been Sea Island, against 16,845 bales for 1871-72. This crop has been produced as follows :—

Florida, 10,764 bales; Georgia, 1,269 bales; South Carolina, 13,156 bales; Texas, 1,100 bales.

	Bales.
The stock of Sea-Island cotton on hand at the beginning of the year was 351 bales, making the total supply.	26,640
The stock on hand September 1, 1873, was ..	1,667
Total distributed	24,973
Of which exported to foreign ports	14,850
Consumed in the United States	10,123

The estimate of consumption in the United States of the crop of 1872-73, compared with that of 1871-72, is as follows :—

	1871–72.	1872–73.
	Bales.	Bales.
Taken by Northern mills	977,540	1,063,465
„ Southern mills	120,000	137,662
Total	1,097,540	1,201,127

Showing an increase in consumption of 63,587 bales.

Of the almost new but rapidly-growing Southern industry of cotton-spinning, a careful examination of the consumption in each State gives the following result:—

	Bales.	Lbs.
Alabama	15,081	6,635,660
Arkansas	293	128,990
Georgia	39.122	17,213,790
Kentucky	8,510	3,744,600
Louisiana	2,790	1,227,690
Mississippi	3,126	1,375,460
Missouri	10,112	4,449,390
North Carolina	12,291	5,408,160
South Carolina	16,691	7,344,080
Tennessee	10,221	4,497,280
Texas	4,192	1,844,490
Virginia and Western Virginia	15,233	6,702,360
Total	137,662	60,572,220

The following examination of bales and weight in pounds of cotton exports from the cities given shows the average weight per bale :—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Average Weight.
			Lbs.
Galveston	209,441	100,741,294	481
New Orleans	1,155,659	521,811,654	451
Mobile	132,130	64,368,451	487
Savannah	375,895	173,686,723	462
Charleston	160,169	71,115,151	444
Wilmington	1,632	726,240	445
Norfolk	7,722	3,675,672	476
Tennessee, &c.	413,136	198,305,280	480

Applying this to the total crop of each State, viz. :—

	No. of Bales.	Average Weight.	Total Weight.
		Lbs.	Lbs.
Texas	343,450	481	165,199,450
Louisiana	1,240,384	451	559,413,184
Alabama	332,457	487	161,906,559
Georgia	614,039	462	283.686,018
South Carolina	374,476	444	166,267,344
North Carolina	61,576	445	27,401,320
Virginia	433,583	476	206.385,508
Tennessee, &c.	530,543	480	254,660,640
Total gross crop ..	3,930,508	464	1,824,920,023

At the close of December 1873 the total "visible supply" of American cotton was estimated as follows :—

	Bales.	Against same time, 1872.
		Bales.
Liverpool stock	87,000	63,000
Continental stocks	80,000	89,000
Afloat to Europe	374,000	392,000
United States stock	708,711	498,320
United States interior stock	132,770	88,629
United States exports, closing week ..	21,000	17,000
	1,403,481	1,147,949

The opening quotations for cotton on the 1st January, 1873, and closing quotations on 31st December, 1873, were :—

	Uplands.		Alabama.		New Orleans.		Texas.	
	Jan. 1.	Dec. 31.	Jan. 1.	Dec. 31.	Jan. 1.	Dec. 31.	Jan. 1.	Dec. 31.
	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Ordinary	17 3/4	13 1/2	18	13 1/2	18 1/4	13 1/2	12 1/2	13 1/2
Good ordinary ..	19	14 3/8	19 1/4	14 1/2	19 1/2	14 3/4	19 3/4	14 3/4
Low middling ..	19 3/4	15 3/8	20	15 1/2	20 1/4	15 3/4	20 1/2	15 3/4
Middling	20 3/4	16 1/4	21	16 3/8	21 1/4	16 5/8	21 1/2	16 3/4
Good middling ..	22 1/2	17 1/4	22 3/4	17 3/8	23	17 5/8	23 1/4	17 5/8

The price of gold at the same dates respectively was 112 1/8 and 110 1/2. The highest price during the year was 119 1/8, and the lowest 106 1/8.

December 20, 1873, the total "visible supply" of grain, including the stocks in granary at the principal points of accumulation at lake and seaboard ports, in transit by rail, and frozen in in transit on the New York canals, was as follows :—

	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.	Barley.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
In store at New York	1,340,726	1,611,636	522,832	227,979
,, Albany	17,500	45,000	48,000	245,000
,, Buffalo	452,073	377,271	82,173	138,776
,, Chicago	1,158,907	1,085,768	368,697	467,118
,, Milwaukie	806,747	71,205	40,080	101,430
,, Duluth	8,865	..	..	..
,, Toledo	292,484	115,247	80,153	3,982
,, Detroit	51,675	53,061	30,435	12,526
,, Oswego	852,372	350,739	1,040	213,142
,, St. Louis	73,992	86,530	59,034	33,441
,, Boston	7,260	157,464	176,528	34,263
,, Toronto	153,933	16,371	5,725	32,605
,, Montreal	764,807	230,798	20,868	12,725
,, Philadelphia*	265,000	210,000	85,000	130,000
,, Baltimore*	90,804	119,606	175,000	15,000
Rail shipments	678,808	109,394	115,196	76,281
Amount on New York Canals ..	1,400,000	1,059,000	400,800	320,000
Totals..	8,465,353	5,704,450	2,205,561	2,028,268

The total number of immigrants arriving in the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, was 459,803, of which there were :—

Under 15 years of age..	104,672
Between 15 and 40 years	288,272
40 years and upwards	66,859
Died on voyage	567

The immigrants were from the following countries :—

	Males.	Females.
British Islands	94,800	72,043
Germany	86,411	63,260
Austria	3,098	2,667
Sweden	8,656	5,647
Norway	9,928	6,319
Denmark	3,326	1,605
Netherlands	2,282	1,529
Belgium	763	413
Switzerland..	1,943	1,164
France	9,500	5,298
Spain	409	132
Portugal	21	3
Italy	6,851	1,864
Greece	21	2
Turkey	39	14
Hungary	715	632
Russia	955	605
Poland	2,224	1,114

* Estimated.

	Males.	Females.
Finland	68	6
Gibraltar	2	4
Heligoland	1	..
Sicily	26	15
Sardinia	1	..
Malta	4	..
China	19,403	889
Japan	9	..
India	12	3
Syria	3	..
Persia	1	..
Malacca	..	1
Asia	3	1
Egypt	5	1
South Africa	6	2
Algeria	1	1
Africa	4	2
Canada	17,113	14,598
Nova Scotia	2,093	1,826
New Brunswick	324	250
Prince Edward Island	355	462
Newfoundland	109	203
Vancouver's Island	452	86
Mexico	483	123
Central America	31	7
United States of Colombia	36	8
Venezuela	15	2
Guiana	19	4
Brazil	29	1
Argentine Republic	9	1
Chile	18	..
Peru	15	3
Ecuador	1	..
South America (not specified)	2	..
Cuba	684	278
Porto Rico	19	10
Hayti	12	8
Jamaica	22	21
Bahamas	179	150
Barbados	14	7
St. Croix	13	19
Grenada	1	2
Martinique	1	..
Trinidad	3	..
Tobago	1	..
Guadaloupe	1	..
Antigua	1	..
St. Thomas	1	..
Curaçoa	1	..
Ruatan	2	..
West Indies (not specified)	113	74
Azores	786	375
Madeira	1	2

	Males.	Females.
Cape Verdes	6	..
Canaries	5	..
Bermuda	15	5
St. Helena	6	3
St. Pierre	..	2
Iceland	3	..
Sandwich Islands	194	41
Tahiti	35	..
Australia	990	140
New Zealand	2	3
Java	7	..
Borneo	1	..
East Indies	1	..
Born at sea	77	61
Total	275,792	184,011

Of these the avocations were—

	Males.	Females.
Professional occupations	2,747	239
Skilled labour (mechanics)	47,490	1,302
Miscellaneous (tradesmen, servants, &c.) ..	152,575	16,143
Occupations not stated	1,371	3,497
No occupations	71,609	162,830
	275,792	184,011

The production of precious metals in the States and territories west of the Missouri River, including British Columbia, during 1873, was as follows:—

	Gold Dust and Bullion by Express.	Gold Dust and Bullion by other Conveyances.	Silver Bullion by Express.	Ores and Base Bullion by Freight.	Total.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
California.. ..	15,709,956	1,570,995	264,771	480,000	18,025,722
Nevada	219,141	43,828	30,183,921	4,807,617	35,254,507
Oregon	1,146,991	229,398	..	..	1,376,389
Washington ..	171,951	34,390	3,054	..	209,395
Idaho	1,171,131	234,226	938,297	..	2,343,654
Montana	3,241,238	648,247	3,325	..	3,892,810
Utah	112,003	22,400	1,210,434	3,561,500	4,906,337
Arizona	37,074	7,415	3,289	..	47,778
Colorado	1,856,639	..	839,862	1,386,767	4,083,268
Mexico	..	..	868,798	..	868,798
British Columbia ..	1,011,696	208,339	..	..	1,250,035

The combined product is 72,258,693 dollars, against 62,236,913 dollars in 1872, and is undoubtedly the

largest yield for one year in the history of the Pacific coast.

The total exports of domestic commodities from the United States for the twelve months ending June 30, 1873, as compared with the preceding year, were in value as follows:—

	1873.	1872.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Shipped in cars and other land vehicles ..	7,785.075	6,279.157
„ American vessels	163,110,634	161,319,869
„ foreign vessels	478,236,854	381,620,692
	649,132.563	549,219,718

The total export of foreign commodities in the same time were:—

	1873.	1872.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Total dutiable	14,024,996	14,199,960
Total not dutiable	14,123,485	8.569,789
	22,148,481	22,769,749
Of which were shipped in cars and other land vehicles	3.014,355	3,735,932
Ditto in American vessels	8,455,094	6.722,462
Ditto in foreign vessels	16,679,032	12,311,355

The total imports of foreign commodities for the twelve months ended June 30, 1873, as compared with the preceding year, were as follows:—

	1873.	1872.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Total dutiable	497,115,580	579,327,864
Total free of duty	166,295,017	61,010,920
Total Imports	663,410,597	640,338,776
Entered for immediate consumption ..	433,493,341	361,214,259
Entered for warehouse	229,917,256	279,124,507
Brought in cars and other land vehicles ..	17,070,548	17,635,681
„ American vessels	174,536,454	177,286,302
„ foreign vessels	471,803,595	445,416,783

The imports are sworn specie values at foreign place of export. The exports are sworn currency value, except gold and silver, and Pacific coast exports, which are in specie.

The foregoing is from Tables prepared by the Chief of the Government Bureau of Statistics. The Secretary of the Treasury, however, states the value of merchandize imported for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, at 642,029,539 dollars, as against 626,595,077 dollars for the previous year. The increase in the importation of coffee is stated at 6,164,339 dollars, and in tea 1,522,519 dollars, in addition to the amounts in bond on July 1, 1872, which were withdrawn during the year, coffee to the value of 16,901,126 dollars, and tea to the value of 18,024,217 dollars. There was an increase, also, in the importation of—

	Dollars.
Copper and copper manufactures	1,818,488
Soda and salts	1,719,408
Tin in plates	2,681,222
Hides and skins	1,427,784
Fur skins	188,170
Melado	2,656,138
Wood and manufactures thereof	2,141,766
Earthenware	745,140
Manufactures of cotton	9,893,870

There was a decrease in silk goods, 5,723,582 dollars; in precious stones, 182,905 dollars; fruits, 713,203 dollars; fancy goods, 278,577 dollars; fine linen, laces, and other manufactures of flax, 1,054,115 dollars; as well as in some articles of a different class, such as barley, 440,626 dollars; opium, and extracts thereof, 128,839 dollars; leather, and leather goods, 1,829,917 dollars; wool, 8,105,114 dollars.

The Secretary of the Treasury also gives the gold value of the exports of merchandize at 522,478,892 dollars, as against 444,177,586 dollars for the previous year, and gives the increase in certain articles exported as follows, the value being in currency:—

	Dollars.
Cotton	47,201,672
Wheat	12,537,194
Wheat flour	1,425,980
Bacon and hams	13,895,545
Pork	884,727
Lard	1,068,196
Cheese	2,745,092

	Dollars.
Oils	7,256,514
Wood and manufactures thereof	3,878,930
Manufactures of iron	2,372,725
Coal..	952,449
Drugs and chemicals	575,050
Hides and skins	2,159,845
Fur and fur skins	382,545
Leather and leather goods	1,621,465
Live animals	259,731

The export of gold and silver in excess of the imports was 63,127,637 dollars, as against 66,133,845 dollars for the previous year.

The increase in ship-building is decided, and the carrying trade in American vessels shows a gain of 3 per cent. over the previous year, 27 per cent. of the exports and imports having been carried under the flag of the United States. A class of large three-masted schooners, very economical in outfit and running expense, has come very much into use, and several barques are being altered to that rig, whilst many new schooners are being built in the eastern ship-yards. These are not to be confined to the coasting trade, but find their way to Europe, the West Indies, South America, and the Pacific, and their economy is said to be so great that they earn a profit where other vessels cannot be made to pay.

The construction of iron steam-ships has also made progress, although it remains to be seen if the vessels are altogether serviceable, the principal, if not the only building of this character, has been in the American (Philadelphia) steam-ship line, the ships of which, particularly the first one of the line, the "Pennsylvania," since lost, are not considered to be over safe or well put together. The Pacific mail steam-ship line has built during the past year the "Acapulco," "Granada," "Colon," "Colima," and "City of Panama," and is building the "City of Callao," "City of Yeddo," and "City of Pekin;" and a coastwise steam-ship line has built a number of small, light draft ships for the Texas and New Orleans trade.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, official numbers have been given by the Bureau of Statistics to 1,699 vessels, the aggregate tonnage of which amounts to 313,743 tons, against an addition in the preceding

year to the mercantile marine of but 38,261 tons. Since the close of the fiscal year the Secretary of the Treasury states that still greater activity has prevailed in the ship yards on the Atlantic coast. From the 1st of July to the 1st of November documents have been issued to 1,288 completed vessels of 181,000 tons in all, while the incomplete returns received indicate that there were building in October last 386 vessels, of the tonnage of 177,529 tons, including 69 steamers, with a tonnage of 67,007 tons, of which 18 steamers, the aggregate tonnage of which is 38,492 tons, are in course of construction on the Delaware.

Under the Act of Congress of June 6, 1872, authorizing the importation, free of duty, of certain articles actually used for ship-building, the following amounts of merchandize were imported or taken out of bond:—

Port.	Value.	Duties Remitted.	Duties Estimated.	Duties to be Collected.	Vessels.	
					Built.	Repaired.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.		
New York	173,626 00	36,922 00	...	...	2	...
Boston	139,246 00	37,546 86	10,347 06	1,306 13	4	47
Philadelphia	2,768 00	894 48	...	*	...	...
Portland	15,403 00	4,687 67	...	*	5	1
Bath	56,663 00	4,743 92	...	*	17	2
Total	387,709 00	84,864 93	10,347 06	1,306 13	28	50
Duties estimated	...	10,347 06				
		95,211 99				

The commercial failures of 1873 have been heavy, showing an increase over 1872 in the amount of liabilities of those who have failed of 107,443,000 dollars. The total seems very large, but it includes failures which were really but suspensions, and loans on collaterals which have since been liquidated or adjusted. In fact, 72,000,000 dollars of the increase is charged to New York City, and 5.000,000 dollars more to New York State, leaving only 30,000,000 dollars for the entire balance of the country, and of this 22,000,000 dollars was in Pennsylvania.

The number of failures reaches 5,183, against 4,069 in 1872, 2,915 in 1871, and 3,551 in 1870. This increase cannot be considered large, since the number of business firms among which the failures occurred was 431,000 three years ago, against 603,904 at present.

* Duties remitted, but vessels engaged in coasting trade more than three months in one year, hence duties accrued.

The following table states the comparative results, New York City and the balance of the country being given separately :—

	Failures in New York City.		Other portions of the United States.		Total.	
	No.	Liabilities.	No.	Liabilities.	No.	Liabilities.
		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.
1870	430	20,573,000	3,121	67,669,000	3,551	88,242,000
1871	324	20,740,000	2,591	64,512,000	2,915	85,252,000
1872	385	20,684,000	3,684	100,372,000	4,069	121,056,000
1873	644	92,635,000	4,539	135,864,000	5,183	228,499,000

The question of transport has during the year assumed considerable importance. Notwithstanding the building of new railroads, the cheap transport of agricultural products from the West does not seem to be sufficiently provided for, and, as a matter of fact, the country presents the anomalous condition of being the richest in the world in products useful to man, and yet one of the poorest in proper facilities of distribution of these products. In the Western States railroads have caused a great change in the river trade; its wooden boats were unfit to contend with the roads, because, lightly built, they were destroyed in numbers by fire, explosions, and other casualties, and were not replaced from fear of contest with the large capitals of the railroad companies, who thus controlled the bulk of transportation and their prices of freight, though plainly excessive, cannot, from the manner in which they have been built and equipped, and still more from the alleged "watering" of stock and bonds, be reduced. This will be understood by a statement, generally, of the existing rates between Chicago and New York, and thence to Liverpool, including storage, handling, and shortage.

	D. c.
Winter rates.—Chicago to New York, per bushel, 54⅝ c.; New York to Liverpool, 30 c.; making from Chicago to Liverpool, 84⅝ c.; or for the ton rate from Chicago to Liverpool	28 21
Summer rate.—Chicago to New York, per bushel, 42⅝ c.; New York to Liverpool, 30 c.; making from Chicago to Liverpool, 72⅝ c.; or for the ton rate from Chicago to Liverpool	24 21
Water route; lakes, river, and canal.—Chicago to New York, per ton, 7 dol. 23 c., or per bushel, 21·7 c.; New York to Liverpool, 30 c.; making Chicago to Liverpool, per bushel, 51·7 c., or per ton	17 23

What these charges amounted to, apart from the moral discouragement to producers, can be imagined from the official statement of the Comptroller of the State of New York, that the average yearly receipts of flour and grain at the lake ports during the past three years have been 174,981,025 bushels. The receipts at New York City by all rail routes for the last four years have been equal to 145,283,400 bushels, against 189,596,279 bushels by the Hudson River and vessels coastwise; and in the year 1873, to December 13, they have been 42,033,174 bushels by rail and 44,020,469 bushels by water.

The figures of the Chicago Board of Trade for 1872 give the following distribution of the Chicago grain trade amongst the railroads to and from that city :—

	Receipts		Shipments.	
	Tons of Grain.	Per cent. of Total.	Tons of Grain.	Per cent. of Total.
North-Western	549,543	24·40	7,957	0·37
Burlington and Quincy ..	457,108	20·32	3,494	0·16
Illinois Central	417,005	18·52	9,239	0·43
Rock Island	334,998	14·88	8,579	0·40
Illinois and Michigan Canal	216,035	9·59	6,423	0·29
Chicago and Alton ..	205,810	9·14	7,977	0·37
Chicago, Danville, and Vincennes	54,870	2·44	5,188	0·24
Lake	6,868	0·30	1,617,792	75·00
Michigan Southern ..	4,865	0·22	123,531	5·72
Michigan Central ..	2,829	0·12	162,795	7·55
Pittsburg, Cincinnati, and St. Louis	1,007	0·045	66,672	3·09
Fort Wayne	597	0·025	137,679	6·38
Total	2,251,535	100·00	2,157,326	100·00

From the western lake ports the cereals shipped last year amounted to 150,000,000 bushels, and by railroad probably 50,000,000 bushels more. The cereals received at the eastern ports of Lake Erie were 85,000,000 bushels, besides 45,000,000 bushels by railway. The shipments thence, in round numbers, were 50,000,000 bushels by the Erie Canal and probably nearly that amount by rail. In view of this gigantic traffic, it is easy to see the interest evinced in lowering the cost of transportation. For the price of products

rises and falls in proportion to the accessibility to a market. Thus in Iowa and Nebraska corn is valued at 25 to 30 cents and wheat at 90 cents, while in Michigan corn is worth 59 cents and wheat 132 cents.

Taking the entire products of some of the most promising States, as given in the Agricultural Report, and calculating the quantity required for the whole population, as well as for the live stock in each, the following is their surplus production in tons weight. The surplus consists mostly of corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, butter, cheese, meats, tobacco, flax, and wool, and all of it should find its way to the seaboard but for the expense of conveyance :—

	Tons.
Illinois	7,175,727
Indiana	2,500,323
Michigan	851,206
Ohio	2,187,422
Minnesota	938,243
Wisconsin	1,286,513
Iowa	3,290,638
Nebraska	292,345
Kansas	94[illegible],328
Missouri	2,833,892

These States may represent in a measure the western products, but, taking the total products of the United States and Territories for 1872, as shown in the Agricultural Reports for that year, the result of accurate calculations showing the amount unsold and unused, for lack of transportation facilities, is astonishing.

	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Corn—			
Total product of the year		1,092,719,000	
Consumed by the population.. ..	120,910,011		
Consumed by live stock	416,822,400		
Export corn and corn meal	36,036,450		
		573,768,861	
Leaving from subsistence and export		518,950,139	
In the Internal Revenue Reports the capacity of the whiskey distilleries is given at 730,741 bushels of grain per year, but it is probable illicit distillation triples this, therefore deduct		2,192,223	
			516,757,916
Wheat—			
Total product of the year		249,997,100	
Consumed by the population.. ..	100,151,688		
Exported wheat flour and bread, reduced to equivalent bushels of wheat ..	76,472,193		
		176,623,861	
			73,373,239

	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Rye—			
Total product of the year		14,888,600	
Consumed by the population.. ..	13,434,412		
The residue of 1,454,188 bushels was no doubt used for distillation, though not so accounted for, and is therefore not included in general surplus.			
Oats—			
Total prodoct of the year		271,747,000	
Consumed by live stock	207,528,075		
Exported..	262,975		
		207,791,050	
			63,955,950
Potatoes—			
Total product of the year		113,516,000	
Consumed by population	67,172,228		
Exported..	621,537		
		67,793,765	
			45,722,235
		Lbs.	**Lbs.**
Beef—			
Beyond live stock for reproduction		6,555,520,000	
Consumed by population		6,420,556,995	
Leaving surplus		134,963,005	
Total exports of all kinds		26,652,094	
			108,310,911
Mutton—			
Total amount produced, all of which consumed by population		825,000,000	
Hog products—			
Pork and bacon: total product of year . ..		4,484,273,334	
Consumed by population		3,608,023,535	
Leaving surplus for sale		876,249,799	
Exported of all products of the hog		503,029,321	
			373,220,478

The total cereal and meat products of the entire country, as shown by the official Reports, is here given; the total consumption and the total exports, as evidenced also by Government official Reports; and, beyond all these there is a surplus of 663,811,340 bushels in the aggregate of the varied products. Some of this aggregate is, doubtless, utilized, but there are no data or returns anywhere to show it. Inquiry from season to season only elicits the reply that, when not burned, it lies over deteriorating, and is applied to some inferior purpose or used for manure. Besides these cereal products, there are also 481,531,389 lbs. of meat in excess, and, whether these be in the living or slaughtered state, equally a waste. These products, at the cash prices given in the official returns of the export values, amount to the sum of 517,935,405 dollars.

Referring again to the question of "watered" stock, upon which it is claimed earnings are made by excessive

freight charges, a statement has been made to the Illinois Legislature which, although erroneous in the actual total mileage (believed to be more correctly given as 71,564 miles), and therefore not exaggerated, so explains the argument in the adverse legislation to the roads as to be worth reproducing briefly. The mileage is given of all roads, according to Poor's "Manual," as 67,112, with a cost of 3,697,378,057 dollars, or over 55,000 dollars per mile; this being at least 15,000 dollars per mile too much, for 40,000 dollars per mile is a liberal estimate; and, therefore, it asserts that the difference of 1,013,218,057 dollars, the interest upon which at 8 per cent. would be about 81,000,000 dollars per annum, is robbed from the producing classes, and is standing as a permanent injury to their property and a yearly charge on their industry. In the same manner the statement gives the reported cost of the 6,081 miles (according to the statement) in Illinois at 278,386,784 dols. 82 c., although the actual cost should be 182,430,000 dollars, leaving 95,956,784 dols. 82 c. in watered stocks and bonds, the interest and dividends on which, if paid, would be 7,676,542 dols. 78 c. annually.

The actual railroad mileage in the United States is not easy to state accurately, so many roads being in different stages of construction, but the most exact statements give the mileage on the 31st of December, 1873, as 71,564 miles, with second track and sidings of 13,512 miles, making the total equivalent of single track 85,076 miles. The total number of locomotives is 14,223; of passenger train cars, including baggage, express, and smoking cars, 13,725; of freight train cars of all sorts, 338,427. The total capital stock amounts to 2,072,251,954 dollars, and the total floating and funded debt, 1,999,741,597 dollars.

The following Table gives the comparison of railroad construction in 1872-73, showing an addition of 4,190 miles during the latter year.

States and Territories.	Miles, 1872.	Built, 1873.	Miles, 1873.
Maine	891·5	44·0	935·5
New Hampshire	822·7	73·1	895·8
Vermont	736·3	57·9	794·2
Massachusetts	1,625·0	113·7	1,738·7

States and Territories.	Miles, 1872.	Built, 1873.	Miles. 1873.
Rhode Island	132·2	36·9	170·1
Connecticut	898·3	29·7	928·0
New York	4,884·9	398·4	5,283·3
New Jersey	1,343·7	69·5	1,413·2
Pennsylvania	5,432·5	412·9	5,845·4
Delaware	222·7	16·0	238·7
Maryland and Dist. Col. ..	865·4	69·7	935·1
West Virginia	493·3	..	493·3
	13,242·5	966·5	14,209·0
Ohio	3,923·8	192·0	4,115·8
Michigan	2,973·7	222·1	3,195·8
Indiana	3,705·2	128·0	3,833·2
Illinois	6,277·7	201·4	6,479·1
Wisconsin	2,028·2	205·7	2,233·9
Minnesota	1,861·6	51·0	1,912·6
Iowa	3,640 7	203·7	3,844·4
Kansas	1,901·8	101·2	2,003·0
Nebraska	1,147·2	113·1	1,260·3
Missouri	2,769·3	129·0	2,898·3
Wyoming Territory	454·0	..	454·0
Utah Territory	376·0	71·5	447·5
Dakota Territory	223·0	38·5	261·5
Colorado Territory	551·0	105·0	656·0
Indian Territory	310·5	..	310·5
	32,143·7	1,762·2	33,905·9
Virginia	1,504·7	39 8	1,544·5
North Carolina	1,263·5	17·1	1,280·6
South Carolina	1,261·2	62·0	1,323·2
Georgia	2,180·4	21 0	2,201·4
Florida	475·7	..	475·7
Alabama	1,858·6	11·0	1,869·6
Mississippi	985·4	37·0	1,022·4
Louisiana	560·0	..	560·0
Texas	1,110·7	219·7	1,330·4
Kentucky	1,195·7	201·0	1,396·7
Tennessee	1,512·1	97·3	1,618·4
Arkansas	551 5	142·0	693·5
	14,468·5	847·9	15,316·4
California	1,491·3	198·0	1,689·3
Oregon	297·0	10·0	307·0
Nevada	569·0	..	569·0
Washington Territory	55·0	51·0	106·0
..	2,412·3	259 0	2,671. 3

RECAPITULATION.

	Miles, 1872.	Built, 1873.	Miles. 1873.
New England States	5,107·0	355·3	5,462·3
Middle States	13,242·5	966·5	14,209·0
Western States, &c.	32,143·7	1,762·2	33,905·9
Southern States	14,468·5	847·9	15,316·4
Pacific States, &c.	2,412·3	259·0	2,671·3
Grand Total	67,374·0	4,190·9	71,564·9

From these figures may be imagined the magnitude of the contest carried on in the State Legislatures between the railroad men and the "grangers," or advocates of cheap freights; but, in spite of the representations of the last, it must not be supposed that all the roads are making money. Some undoubtedly do, as is shown by the 8 per cent. annual dividends on the doubled capital stock of the "New York Central;" but the western roads, built in advance of the time, or whose traffic is all in one direction, have fared badly. Of 1,700 miles of track in Minnesota, the operating returns of which for 1873 are now in, the interest on the funded debt and the running expenses have not been met by 3,840,000 dollars. The gross earnings were 5,535,000 dollars; the net earnings 1,111,000 dollars, or less than a quarter of the interest on the bonds. Seven roads, operating 224 miles, do not pay their running expenses. The unpaid and overdue coupons on the roads in the State amount to 3,740,000 dollars.

One circumstance illustrating the poverty of some of the roads is their inability to purchase sufficient rolling stock. To meet this want the United States Rolling Stock Company was organized to rent cars, and has been successful in its business, reporting at the close of the fiscal year June 30, 1873, that the demand for rolling stock on lease had constantly increased, and that there were at that date on file applications for 2,000 coal cars and 2,500 box cars, as well as for several locomotives and other cars, such as "flats," passenger coaches, &c. This demand is, of course, from all parts of the country, and illustrates a cardinal defect in the financial management of new roads, which is, that very seldom has any provision been made for putting a road

in order, supplying equipment, and meeting its current obligations during a year or two after completion. The estimate of cost is limited to the bare expense of getting the tract laid and furnishing a very moderate equipment, while the estimate of earning is based on the best the road can do after it has been five years in operation; and is too often supplemented, for the sake of selling the bonds, by the pretended earnings of contractors' trains. Hence the company often falls helplessly into difficulties by failing to meet its expenses in the first years of its existence. In this way the recently-completed Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, 427 miles long, largely endowed by State aid, passing through a rich country, and uniting tidewater on the Atlantic to the rivers of the west, has been forced to default in the interest on its first mortgage gold bonds of 15,000,000 dollars, and the bonds have sold as low as 42 per cent. in currency. Yet no newly-built road has fairer prospects. Since its completion, a few months ago, there have been opened along its line seventeen coal mines and seven iron ore beds, and twelve blast furnaces have been built, and, with those in course of erection, will have a total annual product of 120,000 tons of pig iron. Shipments of cotton from Cincinnati to New York at 70 cents per 100 lbs., and from Louisville at 80 cents, have been made over this road, and lard in the same way has been shipped from Cincinnati to Glasgow at 1 dollar gold per 100 lbs. through. Very large additions to the rolling stock are immediately required to move the freight offering, and ultimately a double track will be needed. One of the results of the road will be to make Norfolk, in time, the greatest coal station on the globe; yet, with all these advantages, the road stands to-day, from the oversight of its managers, a discredited enterprise.

Up to November 15, 1873, the principal of outstanding bonds on completed roads which had failed to pay their interest was 217,959,311 dollars. Since then other defaults have occurred which will probably swell the total to 250,000,000 dollars.

In this state of things the formidable antagonism of the "grangers" to the railroad corporations is almost as much to be deprecated as the unprincipled "stock watering" of the last, as tending to destroy utterly financial

stability. If the roads are allowed to struggle on undisturbed by adverse legislation, or the necessity of appearing at the State capitals to defeat it, the eventual development of the country would lift many of them out of trouble; whilst in the improvement of water communications the "grangers" would find the true source for obtaining cheap transport.

During the year 1873 various examinations have been made with a view to connect by a canal the Mississippi River and the lakes. It has been estimated that this could be accomplished at an expenditure of 7,000,000 dollars, and that the Erie Canal could be enlarged so as to be capable of use for heavily-laden steam grain vessels at a cost of about 10,000,000 dollars, whilst 12,000,000 dollars would connect Lake Champlain with deep water on the Hudson, securing a ship canal for vessels of 1,000 tons. That these enterprises, together with a ship canal at the delta of the Mississippi, are imperatively needed the following statistics of the two great staples of the country in comparison with foreign products show. The depreciation is due almost entirely to costly interior transportation, even to the extent of compelling cotton planters to raise corn instead of cotton, and by the use of the proposed canal system the freight rates would be reduced one half.

From 1860 to 1864 the imports of grain into the United Kingdom, the great grain market of the world, from the United States were 79,668,317 bushels in excess of the imports from Russia, whilst from 1868 to 1872 the Russian imports were largely and increasingly in excess. In 1860 the amount of cotton produced in the United States was 1,115,390,608 lbs., and by all other countries 275,048,133 lbs.; in 1870, by the United States, 625,600,080 lbs., by all other countries, 783,237,392 lbs.—a falling off of nearly 50 per cent. in the United States, and a gain of nearly 300 per cent. to other countries.

The following Table shows the grants of public lands made to railroad corporations by Congress; but it must be remembered that they do not include the grants of swamp or other lands which have been made by some of the States to railroads within their borders.

	Lands Certified.	Lands Granted.
	Acres.	Acres.
Illinois..	2,595,053	2,595,053
Mississippi	906,680	2,062,240
Alabama	2,596,322	3,729,720
Florida..	1,760,468	2,360,114
Louisiana	1,072,405	3,178,720
Arkansas	1,896,219	4,894,871
Missouri	1,820,645	3,745,160
Iowa	3,511,149	7,207,838
Michigan	2,641,984	4,931,361
Wisconsin	1,673,014	3,758,436
Minnesota	3,891,386	9,913,496
Kansas..	676,531	9,870,000
California	159,956	3,520,000
Oregon..	221,896	4,700,000
Grants directly to Companies ..	4,879,871	151,469,966
Total grants in aid of railroad construction	30,305,581	217,847,375
Congressional grants to canals ..	..	4,405,986
„ „ waggon roads	..	3,274,213
So that the aggregate of grants amounts to	..	225,527,574

which is a little over 10 per cent. of the total acreage of the country, and, moreover, embraces selected lands.

In a detailed statement of the cost of collecting the internal revenue for the fiscal year, the total receipts are put down at 105,238,430 dol. 45 c., with expenses of collection amounting to 4,317,896 dol. 91 c. In the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury to Congress, the amount of internal revenue received and paid into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, is stated at 113,729,314 dol. 14 c., and the decrease and increase for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1872, and June 30, 1873, is given as follows :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	Dol. c.	Dol. c.
Spirits	2,623,855 42	..
Tobacco	650,132 57	..
Fermented liquors	1,066,439 38	..
Penalties	19,447 94	..
Banks and bankers	..	857,197 68
Adhesive stamps..	..	8,474,943 75
Articles and occupations formerly taxed, but now exempt	..	12,723,224 53
Total	4,359,875 31	22,055,365 96

Still another statement is given in detail, collated from the official statements of the Bureau of Statistics, which gives the aggregate amount of revenue for the fiscal year at 114,075,456 dollars, with deductions reducing it to 113,504,072 dol. 89 c. Of this sum nearly half is derived from spirits, the duty on which amounts to 52,000,000 dollars. On tobacco the duty is 34,000,000 dollars, and on fermented liquors 9,000,000 dollars. The comparative sums of the several taxes, according to this last Report, are shown in the subjoined Table:—

Internal Revenue for the Fiscal Years ending June 30.

	1872.	1873.
	Dol. c.	Dol. c.
Brandy, from apples, peaches, or grapes	544,848 83	2,012,323 70
Spirits from other materials ..	35,572,940 16	41,118,741 08
Wine, in imitation of champagne, &c.	20 00	3,531 90
Rectifiers' special tax	319,504 20	371,456 72
Dealers, retail liquor	4,028,604 93	5,016,904 10
Dealers, wholesale liquor	727,651 92	781,663 82
Manufacturers of stills, and stills and worms manufactured	5,651 66	4,673 26
Stamps, distillery, warehouse for rectified spirits, &c.	797,290 75	415,367 90
Other sources formerly taxed, now exempt	10,479,003 91	2,374,709 30
Total spirits	49,475,516 36	52,099,371 78
Cigars, cheroots, and cigarettes ..	7,566,156 86	8,940,391 48
Manufacturers of cigars	119,294 44	153,223 07
Snuff	497,092 49	1,082,048 60
Tobacco of all descriptions	24,073,683 10	22,315,809 62
Stamps for tobacco or snuff, for export	53,576 25	5,594 60
Dealers in leaf tobacco	116,917 53	110,514 60
Dealers in leaf tobacco, retail ..	..	8,003 14
Dealers in manufactured tobacco ..	934,341 20	1,663,552 02
Manufacturers of tobacco	11,971 25	11,868 20
Pedlers of tobacco	..	50,694 96
Other sources formerly taxed, now exempt	363,137 40	44,602 80
Total tobacco	33,736,170 52	34,386,303 09
Tax of 1 dol. per barrel on fermented liquors	8,009,969 72	8,910,823 83
Brewers' special tax	248,528 74	304,650 21
Dealers in malt liquors	..	109,463 80
Total fermented liquors ..	8,258,498 46	9,324,937 84
Bank deposits	3,643,272 19	3,009,302 79
Bank capital	976,092 13	736,950 05
Bank circulation	8,864 82	24,778 62
Total banks and bankers ..	4,628,229 14	3,771,031 46
Adhesive stamps	15,296,470 77	7,130,933 57
Penalties	442,205 12	461,653 06
Articles and occupations formerly taxed but now exempt	19,053,006 53	6,329,782 00
Aggregate receipts	130,890,096 90	113,504,012 80

It will be noticed that, in the three prime subjects of taxation, spirits, tobacco, and beer, there is a gain of 5,000,000 dollars, the aggregate being 96,000,000 dollars, against 91,000,000 dollars for last year. The tax on distilled spirits was raised from 50 to 70 cents per gallon, August 1, 1872. To this advance is due the large increase in receipts from this source. The increase in receipts from special taxes is due to an earlier and more thorough collection since the introduction of the system of paying them by stamps. Part of this increase was, however, counterbalanced by the loss of nearly 400,000 dollars during the last year by the reduction of the value of stamps from 25 cents to 10 cents each, and by the further loss of a little over 8,000,000 dollars by repeal of certain taxes, leaving a balance of a little more than 2,500,000 dollars increase in receipts from spirits. The number of taxable gallons from fruit during the year was 2,914,800; from material other than fruit, 68,236,567; total, 71,151,367. The actual product of manufactured tobacco, so far as reported, was 116,450,930 lbs., an increase over the preceding year of 9,180,079 lbs. The number of cigars on which tax was collected was 1,807,134,646, an increase over 1872 of 279,328,674.

The cost of collecting the revenue for the year ending June 30, 1872, was 3·98 per cent.; for 1873 it was 4·1 per cent. The amount collected in 1873 was 105,238,480 dol. 45 c.; the amount in 1872 was 117,329,127 dol. 93 c. The office expenses of collectors during 1873 were over 4,000 dollars more than in 1872, when the revenue collected was 12,000,000 dollars greater.

The following statement of collections, cost of collecting, and per-centage of cost for 1872-73 is instructive, not merely as to the revenue, but also shows at a glance the comparative commercial and industrial activity of the different States and territories. The difference between the total and the aggregate receipts heretofore given is not explained, but may arise in part in the sales of stamps.

	Collections.	Cost of Collecting.	Per Cent.	
			1873.	1872.
	Dol. ç.	Dol. c.		
Alabama	302,424 75	59,622 00	19 7/10	26
Arizona	14,238 87	8,929 60	62 3/4	45
Arkansas	94,263 85	30,669 68	32 1/2	50 4/5
California	2,376,044 88	135,386 27	5 7/10	4 4/5
Colorado	76,274 56	15,635 97	20 1/2	28 1/2
Connecticut	873,984 97	57,592 62	6 1/2	5 2/5
Dakota	7,154 90	6,484 80	90 5/8	110
Delaware	429,403 34	16,069 87	3 3/4	4
District of Columbia.. ..	133,421 58	13,022 38	9 3/4	7 7/8
Florida	143,568 30	17,934 43	12 3/8	26 1/4
Georgia	491,151 31	84,082 20	17 1/10	16
Idaho	18,698 50	13,226 03	70 3/4	29 3/4
Illinois	16'607,333 48	295,075 96	1 7/10	1 8/10
Indiana	5,742,309 71	167,210 05	2 9/10	3 1/2
Iowa	945,597 17	64,332 76	6 4/5	6 9/10
Kansas	104,789 67	16,386 36	15 5/8	9 1/2
Kentucky	5,368,226 28	328,340 13	6 1/10	6 1/5
Louisiana	1,317,660 55	79,575 02	6	6 1/4
Maine	214,293 49	32,509 17	15 1/10	12 1/2
Maryland	2,669,483 82	101,440 43	3 7/10	2 2/5
Massachusetts	3,773,217 22	179,364 27	4 3/4	3 7/10
Michigan	1,985,120 47	69,175 35	3 1/2	3 5/10
Minnesota..	227,724 37	27,867 43	12 1/4	11 3/5
Mississippi..	128,794 29	52,719 35	40 8/10	8 9/10
Missouri	3,407,805 44	126,144 93	3 7/10	3
Montana	36,173 15	15,588 07	44	48
Nebraska	305,273 35	23,002 88	7 1/2	13 1/2
Nevada	83,237 18	14,991 38	18	57 1/8
New Hampshire	321,300 14	25,747 00	8	9 1/5
New Jersey	2,626,051 08	108,797 64	4 1/10	4 2/5
New Mexico	42,821 45	14,116 28	32 9/10	45 2/8
New York..	19,286,630 43	597,426 03	3	3 1/8
North Carolina	1,453,161 74	147,760 79	10 1/10	15 1/10
Ohio	14,671,261 93	343,059 53	2 3/10	2 3/10
Oregon	70,087 91	12,982 88	18 1/2	12 3/4
Pennsylvania	7,545,627 28	434,373 71	5 3/4	4 4/5
Rhode Island	324,552 17	25,994 10	8	5 1/8
South Carolina	169,500 38	36,592 68	21 1/2	17 1/5
Tennessee	697,307 19	120,404 16	17 1/4	13 1/10
Texas	336,699 91	87,832 85	26	34 2/5
Utah	51,591 95	11,167 38	21 1/2	41 1/4
Vermont	78,001 79	15,230 77	19	16 1/5
Virginia	7,318,015 56	156,496 56	2 1/10	3 2/5
Washington	14,792 21	11,103 32	75 3/8	63
West Virginia	455,602 18	36,059 60	7 4/5	7 7/10
Wisconsin..	1,886,688 71	74,576 93	3 9/10	4 1/2
Wyoming	11,112 99	5,795 29	51	102 1/4
Grand Total	105,238,430 45	4,317,896 94	4 1/10	3 98/100

The following Table gives the estimated number and value of live stock in the different States in 1873 :—

	Horses.		Mules.		Oxen and other Cattle.		Milch Cows.		Sheep.		Hogs.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.
Maine	78,000	6,989,580	...	...	185,100	7,152,264	147,600	5,396,256	413,800	1,775,302	62,700	620,730
New Hampshire	47,500	4,132,975	...	...	118,100	4,536,221	93,000	3,240,000	230,800	976,284	42,000	493,500
Vermont	71,000	6,623,590	...	...	130,700	5,047,634	195,700	6,914,081	604,000	2,434,120	68,200	556,392
Massachusetts	101,800	11,020,868	...	...	121,400	4,839,004	139,100	5,725,356	74,900	289,863	80,500	1,084,385
Rhode Island	14,700	1,474,410	...	...	16,900	890,968	20,700	879,750	27,900	149,544	18,100	217,200
Connecticut	50,300	4,974,167	...	...	111,200	4,521,392	106,800	4,218,600	83,200	410,176	63,700	856,381
New York	659,300	67,634,994	19,100	2,484,146	704,800	23,998,440	1,439,400	48,939,600	2,100,300	9,031,290	671,700	5,581,827
New Jersey	115,700	14,718,197	14,900	2,157,669	84,800	2,750,064	147,900	6,531,264	125,900	624,464	164,700	1,523,475
Pennsylvania	546,100	55,953,406	24,900	3,195,168	715,500	21,558,015	796,700	28,242,850	1,691,000	6,222,880	1,088,900	8,841,808
Delaware	20,000	1,808,200	4,000	461,240	33,400	963,256	26,000	858,000	27,300	112476	47,300	271,275
Maryland	104,500	9,291,095	10,900	1,355,358	125,600	2,971,696	96,900	2,981,613	129,400	539,598	264,200	1,614,460
Virginia	185,630	15,139,392	29,400	3,213,420	405,700	6,844,159	234,000	5,543,460	386,900	1,176,176	818,600	3,004,262
North Carolina	131,800	11,879,134	47,500	5,320,950	316,500	3,104,864	201,200	3,420,400	298,200	472,052	848,800	2,614,304
South Carolina	55,300	5,573,346	45,200	5,073,700	179,600	2,501,828	154,800	3,947,400	155,000	317,750	332,600	1,549,916
Georgia	117,300	12,293,040	92,700	11,734,893	401,300	4,440,287	257,400	5,644,782	253,500	410,670	1,559,400	4,678,200
Florida	16,800	1,613,632	10,400	1,321,320	383,600	3,125,548	71,900	1,086,409	32,900	66,787	181,600	490 320
Alabama	107,700	9,932,094	103,600	10,575,488	344,500	4,502,615	177,000	3,513,450	186,200	359,366	961,300	2,980,030
Mississippi	87,500	8,211,875	99,100	11,278,571	336,600	4,274,820	180,100	4,163,912	167,000	308,950	890,400	2,653,392
Louisiana	75,000	7,559,250	76,200	9,265,158	181,200	2,243,256	93,600	2,480,400	73,500	147,006	290,800	1,142,844
Texas	672,300	25,150,743	92,200	5,209,300	2,842,200	21,341,922	566,200	7,643,700	1,239,609	2,331,280	1,233,800	3,578,020
Arkansas	160,900	12,611,342	82,800	7,856,064	251,600	2,961,332	150,300	3,070,629	160,300	351,057	1,067,300	2,753,634
Tennessee	294,100	23,492,798	100,200	9,345,654	351,600	4,806,373	247,700	5,335,458	372,400	718,732	1,596,600	5,396,508
West Virginia	103,600	6,930,840	2,300	193,821	235,500	5,807,430	120,700	3,596,860	561,600	1,499,472	351,600	1,258,728
Kentucky	343,900	23,343,932	84,500	6,589,310	384,300	9,230,886	229,400	6,911,822	824,600	2,383,094	2,113,700	6,742,703
Ohio	738,600	58,910,736	22'600	1,861,562	901,000	24,966,710	786,400	25,306,352	4,639,000	14,069,780	2,217,000	10,131,690
Michigan	282,700	22,729,080	4,000	363,320	463,500	13,103,145	350,600	11,681,992	3,418,000	9,878,020	543,500	2,456,629
Indiana	669,600	45,385,488	35,600	2,583,848	765,000	18,344,700	453,000	13,920,690	1,913,900	5,416,347	2,713,900	9,797,179
Illinois	1,049,400	69,585,714	98,800	7,778,524	1,260,900	30,122,901	710,900	21,646,995	1,394,300	4,461,760	3,706,300	15,937,090
Wisconsin	333,300	26,039,398	5,000	504,300	440,400	10,406,652	425,700	11,919,600	1,153,100	3,263,273	658,400	3,074,728
Minnesota	142,300	11,216,086	3,900	266,190	269,300	5,773,702	182,400	5,486,592	151,400	486,312	209,600	1,054,288
Iowa	634,400	40,506,410	36,400	2,654,652	820,000	19,196,200	537,300	15,130,368	1,776,000	4,278,560	3,847,700	17,199,219
Missouri	527,300	27,145,528	82,200	6,329,632	782,900	14,327 070	405,200	9,424,952	1,437,300	2,946,465	2,656,500	6,375,000
Kansas	198,900	10,561,590	17,400	1,184,418	457,000	9,350,220	214,000	6,193,160	123,000	301,350	457,200	2,423,160
Nebraska	47,700	3,484,788	4,100	425,949	73,200	1,840,248	45,800	1,417,968	36,600	102,846	121,300	668,363
California	250,000	11,037,500	25,000	1,776,500	442,200	10,042,362	270,000	11,728,800	4,002,800	11,888,316	427,300	2,610,803
Oregon	80,800	4,094,984	4,000	201,960	116,700	2,267,481	70,000	2,306,500	534,800	1,476 048	163,100	678,496
Nevada	9 870	468,825	1,000	65,000	40,000	920,000	8,500	331,500	15,000	15,000	4,750	35,625
The Territories ...	95,000	4,940,000	24,000	2,028,000	620,000	13,950,000	225,000	7,537,500	2,200,000	6,380,000	97,000	751,750
Total	9,229,470	684,463,957	1,310,000	124,658,085	16,413,800	329,298,755	10,575,900	314,358,931	33,002,400	9 7,922,350	32,632,050	133,729,615

The business of stock-raising in the United States is a growing one, particularly in Texas, where extensive experiments are being made with a view to the improvement of cattle by imported stock, and it is believed that before long the wild, long-horned cattle will be much changed for the better. The size of some of the Texan cattle "ranches" may be judged by an allusion to that of one belonging to a Mr. King, who has an enclosed pasture of 70,000 acres, besides owning 150,000 acres of land in Nueces and Duval Counties.. The stock comprises 50,000 head of cattle, 20,000 head of sheep, and 10,000 head of horses. He overstocked his enclosed pasture to such an extent in the fall that he was compelled to turn a great many out on the range again, although he sent 4,000 head to Kansas, and slaughtered 4,000 head more for their hides and tallow. He disposes annually of 8,000 head of cattle by sale or slaughter, notwithstanding which the stock is always steadily on the increase. He has recently started another "ranche" of 10,000 acres of land in Cameron County, and on which there are 10,000 head more of cattle.

Through the opening of new railroads St. Louis has lately become a great distributing point for Texas stock, and the prices obtained at this centre, as well as the average weight of the cattle, are worth noting. The prices quoted are per 100 lbs., and the descriptions are those of the market. Of course there are fluctuations in price during the year:—

	Average Weight.	Price.
	Lbs.	D. c.
Thin Texas stockers	about 859	about 2 00
Good Texas stockers	„ 953	„ 2 20
Ordinary Texas steers	„ 851	„ 2 00
Poor, thin cows ("scallawags") ..	„ 730	„ 0 90
Ordinary cows	„ 747	„ 1 15
Fair Texans	„ 915	„ 2 00
Good, fat butcher's, thorough Texans	„ 958	„ 3 37½
Native stockers	„ 902	„ 3 00
Native shippers	„ 1,119	„ 4 00
Fine Texas stockers	„ 1,194	„ 3 00

The returns showing the product, number of acres planted, and the value of farm produce for 1872, the latest period for which full returns have been made, are as follows:—

	Bushels.	Acres.	Value.
			Dollars.
Indian corn ..	1,092,719,000	35,526,836	435,149,290
Wheat	249,997,100	20,858,359	310,180,375
Oats	271,747,000	9,000,769	91,315,710
Barley	26,846,400	1,397,082	19,837,773
Potatoes	113,516,000	1,331,331	68,091,120
Hay	23,812,800	20,318,936	345,969,079

The lowest cash value per acre for corn was in Iowa, 7 dol. 16 c.; the highest was in Nevada, 49 dol. 50 c. For wheat, the lowest was in Nebraska, 9 dol. 51 c.; the highest in Nevada, 43 dol. 75 c. For rye the lowest was in Delaware, 6 dol. 15 c.; the highest in Texas, 23 dol. 73 c. For oats the highest was in Nevada, 35 dollars; the lowest in Maryland, 5 dol. 72 c. For barley the highest was Nevada, 45 dollars; the lowest Nebraska, 9 dol. 94 c. For buckwheat the highest were Pennsylvania and Delaware, each 18 dol. 60 c.; the lowest Tennessee, 7 dol. 12 c. For potatoes the highest was Nevada, 280 dollars; the lowest Minnesota, 25 dol. 74 c. For tobacco the highest was in Massachusetts, 516 dol. 25 c.; the lowest in West Virginia, 62 dol. 67 c. For hay the highest was in Georgia, 37 dol. 20 c.; the lowest in Kansas, 5 dol. 25 c.

(Signed) F. J. PAKENHAM.

June 12, 1874.

Report by Mr. Watson on the present Aspect of the Finances of the United States.

Mr. Watson to Sir E. Thornton.

Sir, *Washington, January 5, 1875.*

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the following general statement of the present aspect of the finances of the United States, which is based on the Report recently presented to the House of Representatives by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The following Tables show the receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874:—

RECEIPTS.

The moneys received and paid into the Treasury by warrants during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, were as follows:—

	Dols.	c.
From Customs	163,103,833	69
Internal revenue	102,409,784	90
Sales of public lands	1,852,428	93
Tax on circulation and deposits of national banks	7,030,038	17
Repayment of interest by Pacific Railway Companies	1,028,895	56
Customs' fines, penalties, &c.	651,271	76
Labour, drayage, storage, &c.	741,435	23
Sales of Indian trust lands	903,439	50
Fees—Consular, Letters Patent, and land ..	1,898,189	74
Proceeds of sales of Government property ..	1,699,017	63
Marine Hospital tax	352,379	98
Steamboat fees	274,490	91
Profits on coinage, &c.	447,970	72
Tax on seal skins	356,610	42
Miscellaneous sources	1,691,303	70
Total ordinary receipts	284,441,090	84
Premiums on sales of coin	5,037,665	22
Total net receipts, exclusive of loans ..	289,478,756	06
	Dols. c.	
Payment by the British Government of the award of the Tribunal of Arbitration at Geneva	15,500,000 00	
Excess of net receipts from certificates of deposit of legal tenders, &c., over redemptions	17,207,475 23	
..		32,707,475 23
Total net receipts ..		322,186,231 24

	Dols. c.	Dols. c.
Balance in Treasury, June 30, 1873..	131,192,028 50	
Amount since received from late depositary, Cincinnati, Ohio.. ..	1,038 78	
	131,193,067 28	
Deduct unavailable balances with depositaries carried to their debits on books of the Register, and to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States	13,730 18	
		131,179,337 10
Total available cash		453,365,568 39

EXPENDITURES.

The net expenditures by warrants during the same period were:—

	Dols. c.
For civil expenses	17,627,115 09
Foreign intercourse	1,508,064 27
Indians	6,692,462 09
Pensions	29,038,414 66
Military establishment, including fortifications, river and harbour improvements, and arsenals .	42,313,927 22
Naval establishment, including vessels and machinery, and improvements, at navy yards ..	30,932,587 42
Miscellaneous, civil, including public buildings, light-houses, and collecting the revenue ..	50,506,414 25
Interest on the public debt	107,119,815 21
Total net ordinary expenditures, exclusive of the public debt	285,738,800 21
Premium on bonds purchased	1,395,073 55
	287,133,873 76
Award of Geneva Tribunal, investment account ..	15,500,000 00
Total net disbursements..	302,633,873 76
Balance in Treasury, June 30, 1874	150,731,694 63
Total	453,365,568 39
It will be seen by this statement that the net revenues for the fiscal year were	289,478,756 06
And the ordinary expenses	287,133,873 76
Leaving a surplus of	2,344,882 30

During the months of July, August, and September of the fiscal year 1874, bonds to the extent of 12,936,450 dollars were purchased for the Sinking Fund account.

By comparing the figures given above with those under the same heads in the similar Report for the

immediately preceding year, the consequences of the financial depression during the year in question will be seen in the fact that, in the most important item of revenue, that derived from Customs, there is a falling off of no less a sum than about 25,000,000 dollars, or nearly 5,000,000*l.* sterling; whilst in the item next in importance, namely, internal revenue, there is likewise a falling off of more than 11,000,000 dollars. The total ordinary receipts for the later year, as compared with those for the preceding one, show a falling off of nearly 38,000,000 dollars.

The total net ordinary expenditure, exclusive of the public debt, for last year, as compared with that for the preceding year, shows a diminution of rather more than 4,500,000 dollars.

The surplus revenue for last year shows a falling off from the surplus of the year before of 41,000,000 dollars.

The following Tables show the actual and estimated receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875.

The receipts during the first quarter of the current fiscal year were—

	Dols.	c.
From Customs	46,651,200	10
Internal revenue	26,314,615	33
Sales of public lands	391,465	88
Tax on circulation, &c., of national banks ..	3,596,148	23
Repayment of interest by Pacific railways ..	217,941	97
Customs' fines, &c.	30,540	31
Consular, patent, and other fees	451,257	11
Proceeds of sales of Government property ..	522,546	77
Miscellaneous sources	1,255,332	57
Net ordinary receipts	79,431,048	27
Premium on sales of coin.	1,453,237	72
Total net ordinary receipts	80,884,285	99
Receipts from certificates of deposit of legal tenders and coin certificates in excess of redemptions	5,247,068	24
Balance in Treasury, June 30, 1874	150,731,694	63
Total available	236,863,048	86

The expenditures during the same period were as follows :—

	Dols.	c.
For civil and miscellaneous expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, and collecting the revenues	20,838,410	77
Indians	3,032,752	93
Pensions	8,913,407	18
Military establishment, including fortifications, river and harbour improvements, and arsenals	11,618,290	99
Naval establishment, including vessels and machinery, and improvements at navy yards	8,122,728	27
Interest on the public debt, including Pacific Railway bonds	32,787,899	38
Total ordinary expenditures	85,313,489	42
Balance in the Treasury, September 30, 1874	151,549,559	44
Total	236,863,048	86

For the remaining three quarters it is estimated that the receipts will be—

	Dols.	c.
From Customs	115,350,000	00
Internal revenue	78,784,000	00
Sales of public lands	1,000,000	00
Tax on national banks	3,300,000	00
Pacific Railways	500,000	00
Customs' fines, &c.	200,000	00
Consular, patent, and other fees	1,200,000	00
Sales of public property	1,000,000	00
Miscellaneous sources	2,100,000	00
Total	203,434,000	00

For the same period it is estimated that the expenditures will be—

	Dols.	c.
For civil, miscellaneous, including public buildings	48,060,000	00
Indians	5,000,000	00
Pensions	21,442,000	00
Military establishment	28,500,000	00
Naval establishment	17,000,000	00
Interest on the public debt	70,000,000	00
Total	190,002,000	00

For the current fiscal year, from the foregoing account of actual receipts and expenditures for the first quarter, and of the estimates of the same for the remaining three quarters, the estimates being based on the assumption that Congress will not increase the expenditures by deficiency or other appropriations, it is expected that the revenues will amount to 284,318,285 dol. 99 c., and that the ordinary expenses will be

275,315,489 dol. 42 c., which will leave a surplus revenue of 9,002,796 dol. 57 c. to be applied to the Sinking Fund.

The sum of 31,096,545 dollars will be required under the law for this fund, and therefore, unless the revenues shall increase beyond the amount anticipated, there will be a deficiency in the Sinking Fund account for this year of 22,093,748 dol. 43 c.

So far as the examination of the public accounts has progressed, the actual outstanding principal of the public debt of the United States on June 30, 1874, as shown by the debt statement of July 1, 1874, was 2,251,690,468 dollars, or about 450,000,000*l.* sterling.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1874, the public debt was reduced by the sum of 5,762,447 dollars, as against 43,000,000 dollars in the preceding year.

On assuming charge of his Department on June 3, 1874, the Secretary found the balance of the Five per Cent. Loan, authorized by the Acts of July 14, 1870, and January 20, 1871, then unissued, to be 178,548,300 dollars. On the 28th July a contract was entered into with Messrs. Belmont & Co., and with Messrs. Seligman & Co., of New York, for the negotiation of 45,000,000 dollars of the Five per Cent. Bonds, the contracting parties to have the option of the balance of the loan.

Calls for Six per Cent. Five-twenty Bonds of the loan of February 25, 1862, have been made as follows :—

	Dols.
August 1, 1874	25,000,000
September 1, 1874..	15,000,000
October 1, 1874	10,000,000
November 2, 1874	5,000,000
Total	55,000,000

The excess of subscriptions over calls, namely, 113,550 dollars, has been provided for by uncalled bonds which have been received by the Treasury in payment for that account.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his Report, very strongly advocates the provision by Congress for the resumption of specie payments within a given and near date, a measure to which, by the Act of March 18, 1869, the faith of the United States is solemly pledged. This recommendation was repeated in the message of the

President at the recent opening of Congress, but, notwithstanding the very cogent reasons put forth by Mr. Bristow, the views of intelligent and well-informed persons as to the best method of resumption are so widely divergent that he feels embarrassment in suggesting a plan, the details of which will commend themselves to Congress.

The Secretary points out that there can be no resumption of specie payments by the Government so long as the volume of paper currency is largely in excess of the possible amount of coin available for that purpose which may come into the Treasury in any year, and while no provision is made for the conversion of this paper money into anything having a nearer relation to coin; nor is it possible for the banks or people to resume specie payments so long as the large amount of irredeemable paper now in circulation continues to be by law legal tender for all private debts, with reference both to the past and the future. Under this state of things gold must continue to flow from the United States, and find employment where the natural, unrestrained laws of trade make its daily use indispensable.

The Secretary recommends that, after an early and fixed day, United States' notes shall cease to be legal tender as to contracts thereafter made, this provision not to apply to official salaries or ordinary Government expenditure under then existing contracts or appropriations.

Between the day thus to be fixed and the time of final resumption, a sufficient period should elapse to enable the people and banks to prepare for the latter by such gradual processes in business as should neither lead to violent contraction in credit and values, nor suddenly increase the obligations of debtors. The sudden and immediate appreciation of the paper dollar to its par value in gold is not only no necessary element of redemption, but, as far as practicable, should be avoided. There is no reason why the law for resumption should compel debtors to pay essentially more than they have contracted to pay. The adoption of such measures as would not suddenly increase the obligations of debtors would go far to allay opposition to resumption of specie payment, and would be but just to debtors, and the day from which new contracts must be discharged in coin

should be fixed sufficiently far in advance to give the people and the banks time to prepare themselves for it.

From the Report of the Comptroller of the Currency, it appears that 2,200 banks have been organized under the National Bank Act, of which number 2,028 are now in operation. On the 2nd of October last the aggregate capital of these banks was 493,765,121 dollars, or about 100,000,000*l.* sterling, with a surplus, in addition, of 128,958,106 dollars, or 26,000,000*l.*; the circulation out-standing was 333,225,298 dollars; the individual deposits 669,068,995 dollars; the loans 949,870,627 dollars; the specie 21,240,945 dollars; legal tender notes, including United States' certificates of deposit, 122,846,946 dollars; redemption fund with the United States' Treasurer, 20,349,950 dollars. The capital of the forty-eight national banks of the City of New York was 68,500,000 dollars, with a surplus of 22,653,881 dollars; net deposits, 204,620,288 dollars; loans, 201,777,054 dollars, of which 4,721,638 dollars were loans on United States bonds payable on demand; 51,478,691 dollars were loans on other stocks and bonds payable on demand, and 5,735,137 dollars were loans payable in gold.

The following Table of the loans of the New York banks for the four years preceding last year will give the means of comparison with the figures above quoted.

New York City.

	Oct. 8, 1870, 54 Banks.	Oct. 2, 1871, 54 Banks.	Oct. 3, 1872, 50 Banks.	Sept. 12, 1873, 48 Banks.	Oct. 2, 1874, 48 Banks.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Capital	73,435,000	78,235,000	71,285,000	70,235,000	68,500,000
Net deposits	159,751,811	191,304,511	158,034,121	172,010,594	204,620,288
Loans—					
On United States' bonds on demand ...	9,012,964	5,661,499	3,180,738	2,938,876	4,721,638
On other stocks, bonds, &c., on demand ...	53,809,603	70,185,331	53,409,625	57,916,130	51,478,691
Payable in gold ...	...	...	3,411,738	4,381,571	5,735,137
All other	105,146,590	122,806,969	123,183,725	133,924,311	139,841,588
Aggregate ...	167,969,157	198,653,799	183,185,726	199,160,888	201,777,054

The aggregate call loans of these banks on October 2nd last year were 56,200,329 dollars, corresponding very nearly with the same class of loans on October 3, 1872. The net amount on deposit with these banks by other national banks was 56,237,452 dollars. The average rate of interest for the past year in New York was 3·8

per cent on call loans, and 6·4 per cent on commercial paper; and for the six months ending October 31, 1874, the average rate was 2·7 per cent. on call loans, and 5·6 per cent. on commercial paper.

The amount of bullion which was operated upon during the fiscal year was—

	Dols.
Gold	68,861,595
Silver	15,122,151
Total	83,983,746

Deducting redeposits, bars made at one institution, and deposited at another, the deposits were—

	Dols.
Gold	49,142,511
Silver	11,484,677

The gold coinage, including worn pieces recoined, was 50,442,690 dollars; silver coinage, 5,983,601 dollars; gold bars, stamped, 31,485,818 dollars; silver bars, stamped, 6,847,799 dollars.

Compared with the preceding year, there was an increase in the gold coinage of 15,193,352 dollars; in silver coinage, 3,037,805 dollars; and in gold and silver bars, 10,816,086 dollars.

The estimate of the Director of the Mint shows a gain in specie and bullion in the last two fiscal years of about 38,000,000 dollars, and the stock of specie in the United States to be about 166,000,000 dollars. The annual production of the precious metals is calculated at about 70,000,000 dollars.

The charge made under existing laws for the coinage of gold tends to create an adverse exchange, and causes bullion to be exported to London, where no charge for coinage of gold is made.

I append a Table with reference to the public debt of the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. G. WATSON.

STATEMENT of the Differences between the several Accounts showing the Outstanding Principal of the Public Debt, with an Explanation thereof, so far as the Examination of the Accounts has progressed.

	Dols.	c.
The statement of receipts shows the amount which has been covered into the Treasury, as derived from loans and Treasury notes, from the organization of the Government to and including June 30, 1874, to have been	8,053,791,647	84
The statement of expenditures shows the payments from the Treasury for the redemption and purchase of loans and Treasury notes for the same period to have been	5,918,206,260	86
Showing the principal outstanding by these tables, June 30, 1874	2,135,585,386	98
The actual outstanding principal at that date, as shown by the debt statement of July 1, 1874, was	2,251,690,468	43
Showing .. .. more outstanding and unpaid principal by the debt statement than by the receipts and expenditures.	116,105,081	45

This difference of 116,105,081 dols. 45 c. is thus explained: The following stocks were issued in payment of various debts and claims, but in the transaction no money ever came into the Treasury. When the stock matured, it was paid out of the general funds then in the Treasury. This showed an expenditure where there had been no corresponding receipt, and, of course, a statement of the debt made from the receipts and expenditures on account of loans and Treasury notes would not be correct, unless these items were added to the receipt side of the account. This cannot be done until legislation has been had authorizing it:—

	Dols.	c.
French farmer-general loan	153,688	89
French loan of eighteen million livres	3,267,000	00
Spanish loan of 1781	174,017	13
French loan of ten million livres..	1,815,000	00
French loan of six million livres..	1,089,000	00
Balance of supplies due France	24,332	86
Dutch loan of 1782	2,000,000	00
Dutch loan of 1784	800,000	00
Debt due foreign officers	186,988	78
Dutch loan of 1787	400,000	00
Dutch loan of 1788	400,000	90
Interest due on the Foreign Debt	1,771,496	00
Domestic debt of the Revolution, estimated ..	63,918,475	44

The above are the details (so far as the progress of the examination has developed them) of the item in the Finance Report of 1871 (page 20), "Revolutionary debt, estimated, 76,000,000 dols."

	Dols.	c.
Mississipi-purchase stock	4,282,151	12
Louisiana-purchase stock	11,250,000	00
Washington and Georgetown debt assumed by the United States	1,500,000	00
United States Bank subscription stock	7,000,000	00
Six per cent. Navy stock	711,700	00
Texas-purchase stock	5,000,000	00
Mexican indemnity stock	305,573	92
Bounty-land scrip	233,075	00
Tompkins fraud in loan of 1798	1,000	00
The following amounts represent the discounts suffered in placing the loans named. Only the money actually received was covered into the Treasury. The difference between this and the face-value of the stock issued was the discount. To make the receipts and expenditures on the loan accounts correct, these discounts should be credited to the loans as receipts and charged to a discount account. This also requires legislation to enable it to be done :—		
Loan of 1796..	10,000	00
Loan of February, 1813	2,109,377	42
Loan of August, 1813	998,581	95
Ten-million loan of 1814	1,983,895	25
Six-million loan of 1814	1,076,826	97
Undesignated stock of 1814	93,868	95
Loan of March, 1815	588,820	93
Loan of February, 1861	2,019,776	10
The foregoing are the details of the difference of 116,105,081 dols. 45 c., so far as the examination of the public debt accounts has progressed. There still remains to be explained	942,433	83
Which is the resultant error arising out of the differences yet to be discovered and reconciled. The full details of this item can only be given after the accounts have all been examined and corrected, and the amount of it may be increased or diminished when the examination of the domestic debt of the Revolution shall have shown what its true amount is. This examination is still being continued, for the purpose of perfecting the records.		
Total	116,105,081	45

Venezuela.

Reports by Mr. Middleton respecting the Revised Tariff of the Republic of Venezuela, and its Commerce during the Year 1874.

Mr. Middleton to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Caracas, November* 20, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of the Tariff contained in the second edition of the Financial Code, which Tariff is a revision of the one in force since the 27th of April of last year, and appears to be generally considered as an improvement upon it.

The present Tariff consists of eight instead of seven classes, and whilst such articles as enter free of duty are incorporated in the first class; those which, although entering free of duty, had, under the former Tariff, to pay an impost more or less equivalent to duty under the denomination of warehouse dues, are incorporated in the second and third class. The articles comprised in the sixth, seventh, and eighth classes have been subjected to duties somewhat higher than those which were leviable by the former Tariff, but this, as is supposed, will be slightly felt, as such increased duties fall almost exclusively upon the finer class of goods, and these, owing to the uniform system of gross weight adopted, are subjected, in any case, to but low duty if compared with the coarser and commoner articles comprised in the classes from the second to fifth class inclusive.

It has been found by experience that such articles were wrongly classed in the former Tariff, and they appear now to be comprised in classes to which they more properly belong; thus all kinds of woollen goods

are now comprised in the seventh class, and, consequently, in the highest, or eighth class, are now comprised as chief articles only silk and mixtures of it, jewellery, and arms, the other articles being of minor importance.

Respecting goods and articles of British manufacture, the change to be anticipated in regard to the working of the amended Tariff will be probably slight, for whilst upon some of them the rate of duty has been slightly raised; upon others it has been lowered.

By the amended Tariff the additional tax of 5 per cent. on import duties, levied under the former one, has been abolished; but it is conjectured that the deficiency thus entailed will be made up for by the increase in the rate of duties imposed upon articles comprised in the sixth, seventh, and eighth classes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure.

LAW XXII.

Tariff of Duties of Importation.

Article I. The merchandize proceeding from foreign parts, which is introduced into the Custom-houses of the Republic, is divided into eight classes:—

1. That which pays no duty.
2. „ „ 2 cents per kilog.
3. „ „ 5 cents „
4. „ „ 15 cents „
5. „ „ 25 cents „
6. „ „ 50 cents „
7. „ „ 100 cents „
8. „ „ 200 cents „

Section 1.

To the 1st class belong—

Free.

1. Bran.
2. Live animals, with the exception of leeches.
3. The articles imported to the account of the Government of the Union.
4. The apparatus and machinery for lighting with gas, and for producing it.
5. Fire engines.

6. Boats and lighters, built or in pieces; and the oars, sails, and anchors for these boats when brought in them.

7. Hydraulic lime, common lime, and Roman cement, and any other material for building not included in any other class.

8. Beans, rice, peas, oats, maize, lentils, potatoes, kidney beans, and all vegetables, garden produce, and alimentary roots or unprepared food.

9. Mineral coal.

10. Carriages, utensils, and materials destined exclusively for railroads; and the coaches, chaises, gigs, omnibuses, and every class of carriage not included in other classes, and the harness for these carriages.

11. The effects brought with them for their own use by Public Ministers and foreign Diplomatic Agents accredited to the Government of the Union, and the Diplomatic Agents of the Republic upon their return to Venezuela.

12. The effects brought by passengers for their own use, to the exclusion of those that have not been used, and of furniture, which will pay according to the class to which they belong.

13. Spheres, or celestial or terrestial globes, hydrographical or navigation charts, and maps of all kinds.

14. Ice, and huano or guano.

15. The eggs of birds.

16. The bricks, tiles or flags of baked clay, of marble, of jasper, or any other material for pavements, provided they do not exceed 60 centimètres; tiles of earth or slate, and unwrought stone of every kind.

17. Wood and vegetable charcoal in pieces.

18. Printed books, pamphlets, newspapers, and copy books.

19. Timber suitable for shipbuilding, and pine, pitch-pine, and other common woods, in boards, planks, girders, rafters, and beams.

20. The machinery, apparatus, and things appertaining to printing-presses; the types, ink, and white printing-paper without glue or gum.

21. The machinery and apparatus for electric telegraphs.

22. Gold or silver mineral.

23. Steam locomotives of any class, with all their accessories.

24. Samples of merchandize in small pieces, whose weight does not exceed 25 kilogrammes.

25. Platina or white gold (*oro blanco*), and unwrought gold and silver, and also gold and silver in lawful coin, provided it be not of standard inferior to that emitted by the nation.

26. Living plants of all kinds, herbariums, or collections of dry plants, and seeds for planting.

27. The productions of Colombia that are introduced through the frontiers with that country, provided the productions of Venezuela enjoy equal exemption in that Republic.

28. Bridges with their chains, flooring, and other adjuncts.

29. Tower clocks, including the tongues and bells.

30. The springs, hoops, axle-trees, cramp-irons, and wheels for carriages, carts, and waggons.

31. Red Bordeaux wine, in whatever vessel.

Section 2.

To the 2nd class belong—

Two Cents.

32. Sulphuric acid.

33. Galvanized iron wire, not manufactured.

34. Red and yellow ochres, chalk, Spanish white, Sienna earth, black

earth for cleansing, "caput mortuum," and all coloured earths for buildings.

35. Springs, boilers, gratings, rollers, and sets of iron sugar mills.

36. Mineral or vegetable tar, asphaltum, raw petroleum, bitumens of all kinds, except for boots and shoes.

37. Ploughs and plough-shares.

38. Hoops of iron or wood for pipes, butts, barrels, or sieves.

39. Barrels, pipes and butts, whether put together or not, and staves, when they come separately.

40. Common black glass or ordinary clear glass bottles, for bottling liquor, and empty.

41. Hydraulic pumps, with their respective tubes and other pieces.

42. Red and black pitch.

43. Meat, residuum, or neats' feet.

44. Hemp or tow, raw or twisted, for caulking.

45. Conduits or water-pipes of iron or lead.

46. Salted or hung beef.

47. Pasteboard, undressed and impermeable pasteboard for roofing buildings and other uses.

48. Carts, waggons, and wheelbarrows.

49. Barley in the shell.

50. Onions.

51. Wood ashes.

52. Rye and wheat in grain.

53. Bark of oak, evergreen oak, and other trees that are used in tanneries.

54. Flour of maize, rye, barley, and any other flour not charged with other duties.

55. Round or square iron in plates, leaves, or any other unwrought form; and old iron in useless pieces.

56. Bricks for cleansing knives and forks.

57. Apples, grapes, pears, and any other fresh fruit being included in this class; chestnuts, and cocoanuts, whether fresh or not.

58. Machinery and apparatus, not specified in the first class, the weight of which does not exceed 1,000 kilog.

59. Wind-mills.

60. Straw and dried grasses, not medicinal.

61. Common resin, white, black, or red.

62. Logwood, guiacum, Brazil wood, mulberry, pink, sandal, and any other similar ores in shavings.

63. Paper for cigarettes.

64. Oars for boats, when not brought with the boats or lighters.

65. Pine resin.

66. Epsom salts.

67. Glauber salts.

68. Groats, broken to make vermicelli.

69. Boards for making boxes, or boxes unmade up of common wood.

70. Looms.

71. Chalk, or white clay, in pieces or in powder.

72. Gypsum in pieces or in powder, and sized gypsum.

SECTION 3.

To the 3rd class belong—

Five Cents.

73. Oils of almond, linseed, and castor.

74. Eating oil.

75. Oils of cocoanut, kerosene, or any other oil used for lighting.
76. Oils of fish, and cod liver.
77. Oils of palms, and drying oil for painters.
78. Olives, capers, large and small, and pickles of all kinds in vinegar or in brine.
79. Steel, bronze, copper, brass, tin, pure or alloyed, lead, zinc, in paste or raw, in bars, pins, scrapings, or in sheets, whether bored or not.
80. Estearic, oleic acids, and estearine.
81. Acetic acid, hydrochloric or muriatic acid, and nitric acid or aqua-fortis.
82. Orange flower water, mineral waters, lemonades, and gaseous waters.
83. Spirits of turpentine.
84. Garlic.
85. White lead, or carbonate of lead.
86. Cotton and flax, in the raw material.
87. Lavender.
88. Almonds, filberts, and nuts in shell, and any other dried fruit with shells.
89. Starch, sago, arrow-root, tapioca, ground rice, and maizena, or fine prepared flour of maize.
90. Canary seed, millet, and sesame.
91. Raw alum.
92. English yellow, or cromate of lead, calcined lead, or minium, lithurge, or mineral manganese.
93. Dissected animals.
94. Apparatus or filters for water.
95. Harness for hearses, carts, and waggons.
96. White or brown sugar, and syrups of sugar, or of bees.
97. Sulphur in flower or in paste.
98. Scales, steelyards, and weights, excepting those of copper, or the greater part of which is of this metal.
99. Dry fibre.
100. Gimlets and augers for perforating stones and stumps.
101. Pottery, glazed and unglazed, in any form.
102. Canes, reeds, rushes, osiers, straw and palm, not wrought.
103. White of zinc.
104. Lees of oil.
105. Tackle, rigging, and cordage or ropes.
106. Smoking pipes, mouth pieces, and common pipes made of earthenware, without mixture.
107. Cacao or chocolate nut.
108. Coffee in grain.
109. Canvass.
110. Vegetable charcoal in powder, animal charcoal, and lamp black.
111. Beef, salted, in brine, or smoked: bacon and smoked or salted tongues, except salted jerked beef that belongs to the 2nd class.
112. Fine pasteboard, or thick office paper, for cards or any other use, including in this classification impermeable paper for presses.
113. Sieves of iron wire.
114. Wax for shoemakers.
115. Ale and cider.
116. Chloride of lime.
117. Old copper in useless pieces.
118. Portable kitchens of iron or other material.
119. Hearses, including the glasses, feathers, or plumes, and any

other article belonging to the hearse, although it be of those that separately pay higher duties, provided they come with the hearse in the same or in another package.

120. Collections of music.

121. White or red chalk, in stone or powder.

122. Retorts of all kinds.

123. Juniper berry, and the seeds of the juniper.

124. Emery, in stone or powder.

125. Sedgeweed, in leaf.

126. Fusees and matches, for working mines and quarries.

127. Vermicelli, maccaroni, and other similar pastes.

128. Fonts and fountains of iron, marble, or any other material.

129. Biscuits of all classes.

130. Gin.

131. Wheat flour and potatoe flour.

132. Iron tools and instruments for agriculture and other uses, with handles or without, such as hoes, addices, pruning hooks, small turned spades, crow-bars, weed-hooks, hatchets, axes, chopping-knives, mallets, sledge-hammers, spades, bills, tasies, windlasses, mauls, anvils, bellows of all kinds, cramps, screws, large screws for blacksmiths, and all other tools or instruments similar to those indicated.

133. Manufactured or wrought iron, in wires, excepting galvanized wires unwrought; in anchors and chains, for vessels; in boxes, for keeping money; in mortars, furniture, presses, for copying letters and stamping paper; in nails, tacks, drills, rivets, tarpauling-nails, in buildings not put together, or in parts, such as balconies, doors, balusters, gratings, columns, ceilings, though coming separately; in statues, vases, jars, busts, and any other similar ornament for houses and gardens; in weights, for weighing; in flat irons, for ironing; in posts, for palisades; and in little stoves, girdles, boilers, kettles, fryingpans, gridirons, pans, and any other article for domestic use, whether tinned or not, and whether or not lined with delft.

134. Tin in sheets, not manufactured.

135. Bones, horns, and hoofs, not manufactured.

136. Hams and shoulders, and cheeses of all classes.

137. Linseed in grain or powdered.

138. Common earthenware and pottery, whether glazed or not glazed, in any form.

139. Fine wood for making musical instruments, cabinet making, &c.

140. Wood in leaves or flakes for veneering.

141. Lard and butter.

142. Machinery and apparatus not included in the 1st and 2nd class, the total weight of which does not exceed 1,000 kilogs. It is to be observed that when with the machinery any articles are annexed that are meant for substitution, and that separately would pay higher duty, they will be gauged the same as the machinery, if coming in the same parcel.

143. Mills or windlasses not comprehended in the 2nd class.

144. Mineral of iron, copper, or tin, and pencil lead.

145. Bullets, shot, and balls.

146. Splinters for making phosphorus matches.

147. Paper of every kind, excepting white printing paper, not sized, paper for cigarettes, painted paper for papering, and those designated in the 6th class.

148. Fish, salted, in brine, or smoked.

149. Pumice-stone, stones of all classes and in any form for grinding

or whetting, crucibles for smelting ovens, stones for filtering, and any other similar to those indicated.

150. Common paints prepared in oil.

151. Slates, with or without frames; slate books, and slate pencils and chalks.

152. Common or calcined potash.

153. Nitrate potash, or salts of nitre.

154. Saltpetre.

155. Empty bags, of canvas, osnaburgs, and other similar fabrics.

156. Leeches.

157. Sardines pressed in oil, or in any other form.

158. Suet, raw. undressed or pressed.

159. Suet prepared for estearic candles, or estearine.

160. Soda or sosa, common or calcined.

161. Carbonic crystalized soda or sosa.

162. Sulphate of iron or copperas.

163. Sulphate of copper or lipis stone.

164. Textures or weavings of iron wire not comprehended in other classes.

165. Common or Venetian turpentine.

166. Suet candles.

167. Coffee winnowers.

168. Glass or crystal in panes, without quicksilver.

169. Vinegar.

170. Wines of all classes, in pipes, barrels, and half barrels, excepting red Bordeaux wine, that belongs to the 1st class.

171. Zumach, in powder or in leaf.

Section 4.

To the 4th class belong—

Fifteen Cents

172. Oil and vinegar cruets, and water and vinegar holders, except those that be of, or have upon them, gold or silver, which belong to the 8th class; and those of German silver, gilt or plated, which belong to the 6th class.

173. Steel, iron, copper, latten, tin, metal, bell-metal, bronze, lead, pewter, and zinc, manufactured in any form not comprehended in other classes, whether they be or not polished, varnished, tinned or bronzed.

174. Manufactured wire in frames for wigs, cages for birds, in frames or racks, for clothes or hats, or other similar apparatus; and also frames for umbrellas and parasols.

175. Bleached almonds and any other fruit without husk.

176. Anise in grain, carraway seed, cinnamon, cumin, cubeb, cloves, marjoram, pepper, and other spices used for seasoning or dressing food.

177. Chandeliers, globes, shades, candlesticks, girandoles, lanterns, lamps, flat candlesticks, and hanging lamps, with the exception of those that have anything of gold or silver, which belong to the 8th class, and those of German silver, gilt, or plated, which belong to the 6th class; all that belongs to or is annexed to said articles, should be considered as belonging to the same class, when they come jointly with them.

178. Trees, called Christmas trees.

179. Jet not wrought.

180. Scales, steelyards, and copper weights, or that have the greatest part of that metal, including weights of iron, if the scales and steelyards be of copper.

181. Billiard bands.
182. Bagatelle boards, with all the accessories.
183. Blacking for shoes and boots.
184. Billiard tables with all their belongings, including the balls and cloth corresponding to each table when they come with them.
185. Ninepins.
186. Baskets, little coaches for children, and other articles of osier or wickerwork: being included in this classification coaches for children, of whatever material.
187. Pasteboard, manufactured or prepared for boxes, great and small, and in any other form, excepting playthings for children, in masks, in playing cards, in boxes made for watches and jewellery, and in some other articles that, like the previous ones, are comprehended in other classes.
188. Barley, bruised or ground.
189. Veratrina.
190. Common brushes and horse brushes.
191. Black, yellow, and vegetable wax, unwrought.
192. Horse hair.
193. Prunes, dates and figs, dried; raisins and other similar fruits.
194. Common glue.
195. Mattresses, straw mattresses, pillows, and cushions, except those of silk.
196. Common pointed knives, with or without sheaths, those with wooden handles or other common material for fishermen, shoe-makers, saddlers, gardeners, and tobacco twisters, and in general those employed in arts or business.
197. Varnishes of all classes.
198. Oil cloths, or waxed cloths, for floors or packing.
199. Brushes and broooms of palm, rushes, or other vegetable material.
200. Looking glasses and plate glass with quicksilver.
201. Whale oil and parafine in paste.
202. Matting of different kinds, for floors.
203. Matting for tables.
204. Foot mats.
205. Figures, ornaments, and vases for preserves, of every class.
206. Fruits in brandy, syrup, or their own juice.
207. Saddle-trees, and foundations for saddles.
208. Gasoline.
209. Jelly of all classes.
210. Shoemakers' thread.
211. Letter thread, and any other thick or coarse thread of hemp, aloes, flax, or cotton, that is not for sewing, embroidering, or weaving.
212. Pack-thread, twine, or rope.
213. Blue cotton stuff.
214. Incense.
215. Instruments for arts and trades, with or without handles, such as pincers, burines, gimlets, compasses, trowels, chisels, paving chisels, levels, planes, awls, files, hammers, saws, tongs, screws, borers, and others similar; and the wooden boxes with some of these instruments.
216. Common soap.
217. Stone soap, called tailors' soap.
218. Syrups of all kinds, except those that are medicinal, and preserves of all classes.
219. Sealing-wax and bitumen.

220. Wool unwrought.
221. Canvass and sail cloth of hemp or cotton.
222. China or porcelain, in any form.
223. Hops.
224. Wood manufactured in any form not comprehended in other classes.
225. Marble, jasper, alabaster, granite, and any other similar stone, wrought or polished, in any form not mentioned in another class.
226. Wicks and twists for lamps, and tube cleaners..
227. Mustard, in grain or ground.
228. Furniture, of wood, osier, straw, or wicker
229. Wick, or spun cotton for wick.
230. Mastic, for polishing, and also that used for the ends of billiard maces.
231. Painted paper, for papering.
232. Paste, imitating porcelain, marble, granite, or other fine stone, in any form excepting playthings for children.
233. Pianos and organs, or any parts of them when coming separate, stools being included.
234. Flints, touch-stones for lithographing, for polishing, and other similar ones not included in other classes.
235. Hides, not tanned nor manufactured.
236. Preparation for soldering.
237. Leather points, for billiard maces.
238. Sausages, preserved food, and any other food, prepared or not prepared, not included in the previous classes.
239. Sauces of all kinds.
240. Syphons and machines for gaseous waters.
241. Red or white leather, not manufactured.
242. Tobacco in leaf, and all twisted tobacco for chewing, and chopped tobacco for cigarettes.
243. Talc in flakes, or powdered.
244. Hog or horse-hair, for fishing.
245. Wire covers for viands.
246. Covers with heads of metal, glass, crystal, or porcelain.
247. Cloths or stuffs of cotton, canvass, bass-weed, or thread for floor coverings, although they may have some mixture of wool.
248. Prepared cloths for portraits and oil paintings, and sketches for drawings.
249. Cloths, or ordinary stuffs of canvass, thread, or cotton, for manufactured furniture, in broad belts, or in other forms.
250. Hair stuffs, for furniture.
251. Boot jacks and cork screws.
252. Chalk in loaves, pieces, or other forms for billiards, &c.
253. Transparencies and jalousies, for doors and windows.
254. Squibs.
255. Canvass or cloth, for sails of vessels.
256. Candles of spermaceti, paraffin, composite, or esterine.
257. Velocipedes of all kinds.
258. Manufactured glass or crystal in any form, not included in other classes.
259. Wines of all classes, except Bordeaux claret in demijohns, bottles, or other articles that are not pipes, casks, or barrels.
260. Manufactured gypsum in any form, except in playthings for children.

SECTION 5.

Twenty-five Cents.

261. Perfumed oils and soaps.
262. Oils not included in the preceding classes.
263. Rum, brandy, cognac, sweet liquors, and all other liquids not included in the preceding classes.
264. Scented waters for the toilet table.
265. Instruments or frames for the measurement of hats.
266. Skeletons or forms of gummed stuff for hats, bonnets, or caps.
267. Rings and buckles lined with leather.
268. Hones for razors, fine stones for grinding razors, and also the paste for sharpening them.
269. Sassafras.
270. Quicksilver.
271. Trunks, sacks, leather bags, and portmanteaus, for journeys, of all kinds.
272. Trusses, bougies, suspensories, lint for wounds, trainers, filters, breast-drawers, and other apparatus for the same purpose, cupping-glasses, anodyne necklaces, spatulas, lancets, retorts and syringes.
273. Linen, sail-cloth, unbleached linen, ticking, domestics, unbleached cottons, grey and brown linens, and any other similar coarse material, classifying under the same head those that have coloured stripes or flowers, provided the ground is unbleached.
274. Brushes and pencils of all classes.
275. Leather boxes for hats.
276. Perpetual almanacs.
277. Cameras, clear or obscure, for drawing or photography, and other similar instruments.
278. Cotton canvass for embroidering.
279. Unmanufactured tortoise shell.
280. Bleached linen or cotton crcynelas, dowlas, bleached or unbleached crues, coloured or not coarse linen, and any other similar material not included in the 3rd and 4th class.
281. Sieves of copper wire, of hair, or of silk.
282. Brushes for the teeth, for the hair, clothes, shoes, and whatever other use, except those included in the 4th class.
283. Unworked white wax, pure or mixed.
284. Boar hair for shoemakers.
285. Isinglass.
286. Colours or paints, not included in the preceding classes.
287. Cork in boards, plugs, or in any other form.
288. Amethyst quartz.
289. Penknives, razors, scissors.
290. Knives and forks, except those that have handles gilt or plated that correspond to the 8th class; and those of German plate, plated or gilt, that correspond to the 6th class.
291. Cords and silvered cord.
292. Drugs, medicine, and chemical products, not included in the preceding classes.
293. Oil cloths or skins in whatever form, except those that are used for paving or for bales, included in the 4th class.
294. Cotton buckram.
295. Brooms and brushes of hair.
296. Essences and extracts of all classes.

297. Labels and inscriptions, printed or lithographed.
298. Sponges.
299. Stereoscopes, cosmoramas, dioramas, panoramas, magic lanterns, and other similar apparatus.
300. Paper lanterns, paper collars, breasts, and cuffs, including those lined with stuff, and manufactured paper not included in other classes.
301. Foils, masks, plastrums, and gloves for fencing.
302. Felt or woollen stuff for hats, visors for caps or murrions, cases for paper, leather, ferret lace, rabbit or other skins, and any other article used only in the manufacture of hats.
303. Phosphorus paste.
304. Photographs.
305. Cotton blankets.
306. White woollen blankets, or with coloured borders, or dark ones.
307. Fireworks.
308. Gum arabic, copal resin, and any kind of gum or resin not included in other classess.
309. Hemp or cotton thread for embroidering, sewing, or knitting.
310. Loadstone.
311. Images or effigies not of gold or silver.
312. Musical instruments, or any of their parts or accessories, excepting pianos and organs.
313. Surgical instruments, and also those of anatomy, mathematics, and any other science not included in other classes.
314. Sets of chessmen, draughts, dominos, roulette, and others similar.
315. Playthings of all kinds for children.
316. Stamped pictures on paper.
317. Blank books; crayons and black pencils for drawing, portfolios, pencils of all kinds except slate pencils; india rubber; envelopes, seals, and stamps for letters; ink and ink powders for writing; paper knives, pencil cases, sealing wax, wafers, sand, pens, penholders, inkstands, and every other article for writing, not included in the preceding classes, and that are not of or have gold or silver.
318. Books of gold or silver leaf, whether real or false, for gilding or plating; and bronze in powder and books for bronzing.
319. Liqueur stands, with or without liqueurs.
320. Linen or cotton coloured domestics.
321. Thread or cotton checks and guingas.
322. Painted, varnished, gilt, or plated wooden mouldings for cornices, frames, &c.
323. Crape and elastic mourning for hats.
324. White calico, white lustring, linen, domestic, crues, bleached dowlas, grey linen, bleached cotton dowlas, and any other white cotton material similar to those mentioned.
325. Frames, with or without glasses, and with or without portraits, effigies, or stamps.
326. Masks of all kinds.
327. Leather, ribbon, or paper measures, loose or in cases.
328. Nutmeg and the flowers of nutmeg called mace.
329. Screens of metal, paper, stuff, &c.
330. Perfumery of all classes.
331. Parchment and its imitations in every form, not included in other classes.
332. Areometers of all kinds and gauges for alcohol.

333. Paintings and portraits on linen, wood, paper, stone, and other material.
334. Bottle and glass stands.
335. Tobacco in leaf.
336. Taniro.
337. Visiting cards.
338. Tea and vanilla.
339. India, marking, dying, and any other kinds of ink, except for printing.
340. Poisons for preserving skins.
341. Tinder boxes and gypsum and wick for the tinder boxes.

Section 6.

Fifty Cents.

342. Bugles and beads of glass, porcelain, steel, wood, or any other material, except of gold and silver.
343. Steel hoops for crinolines, lined or not.
344. Cotton or linen damask, cotton platillas, silesias, brown linens, crues, bleached dowlas, white or coloured, of thread or mixed with cotton.
345. Pins, needles, bodkins, hooks and eyes, thimbles, hair pins, fish hooks, and buckles for shoes, for hats, waistcoats, and pantaloons, excepting those of gold and silver.
346. Rugs or carpeting.
347. Under-waistcoats, bands, caps, drawers, pantaloons, stockings, and all cotton knitting.
348. Spectacles, opera glasses, telescopes, eye glasses, microscopes, except those mounted in gold or silver; included in this the glasses belonging to them though they come separately.
349. Playing cards.
350. Whalebone and its imitations.
351. Barometers, hydrometers, chronometers, sextants, octants, and other similar instruments.
352. Canes, whips, and life preservers.
353. Buttons of all kinds, except those of silk, gold, or silver.
354. Baize or ratteen, in pieces or in blankets.
355. Compasses of all kinds.
356. Pipes and mouthpieces for smoking, of amber, porcelain, and any other material, except gold or silver, and those denominated in the 3rd class.
357. Boxes or necessaries for shaving.
358. Made cotton shirts.
359. Shells, loose or ornamental.
360. Pocket books, cigar cases, porte monaies, cases for spectacles, cards, matches, albums, and any other similar article, except those that are of gold and silver.
361. Manufactured wax in any form except in playthings for children.
362. Elastics for boots.
363. Counterpanes, sheets, hammocks, mantles, table covers of thread or cotton.
364. Coral in any form, except set in gold or silver.
365. Funeral wreaths, or other funereal adornments.
366. Work-boxes, reticules, and travelling necessaries.
367. Crinolines, tournures, and all similar things.

368. Knives and forks, with handles of German silver, gilt or plated.
369. Artificial teeth and eyes.
370. Linen and cotton drills, red cambric, cotton and linen damasks, nankeen piqué, and stiff muslin, white or coloured, and any other cotton cloth not included in other classes.
371. Shirts, dressing-gowns, and cotton chemises, made or unmade, and with or without embroidery.
372. Effects of German silver or its imitation, such as dishes, trays, bridles, bits, spurs, stirrups, hinges, buckles, chandeliers, lamps, and other articles.
373. Effects of iron or other metal gilt or plated, not including writing materials, which will always pay as of 5th class, even if gilt or plated.
374. Wool in yarn.
375. Sheaths or cases with mountings of steel, copper, or other metal for embroidering, for tooth-picks, for nail-cleaners, drawings, paintings, &c.
376. Felt, in pieces, for saddle-cloths.
377. Phosphorus matches, of wax, wood, or paste.
378. Woollen blankets mixed with cotton, with coloured ground; and mantles or coverlids of wool and cotton mixed, also coloured.
379. Stuff or embroidery for slippers, excepting those of silk.
380. Elastics for boots.
381. Gutta percha, wrought or unwrought.
382. Gold and silver thread, false; spangles, gold leaf, foil, galloon, guimp, and any other article of false gold or silver, for work or embroidery.
383. Bone, ivory, mother-of-pearl, jet, and their imitations; tortoise-shell and its imitations; india-rubber, elastic, horn, and talc, manufactured in any form not included in other classes, and excepting those manufactured in children's playthings that correspond to the 5th class, and those that have any part of gold and silver that belong to the 8th class.
384. Tablecloths, towels, and napkins of all kinds.
385. Hands, keys, springs, and other pieces for the inside of watches, not being of gold or silver.
386. Shot-bags, powder-flasks, pistons, pockets and sacks for sportsmen.
387. Cotton handkerchiefs; by "handkerchief" is understood that which does not exceed a metre in length.
388. Gilt or plated paper, paper stamped in relief, and coloured paper for flowers.
389. Umbrellas and parasols of woollen, linen, or cotton.
390. False pearls and stones not set, or set in any metal not gold or silver.
391. Dressed skins not manufactured, except white or red leather that belong to the 4th class.
392. German silver in any form.
393. Goose-quills prepared as toothpicks.
394. Feather dusters.
395. Powder.
396. False jewellery.
397. Table or wall clocks; those called alarums; those of water or sand; and any other kind except watches and turret clocks.
398. Hats, bonnets, and shapes of straw, or its imitations, untrimmed.

399. Varnished leather, not manufactured.

400. Printed cottons, calicoes, brillantines, carlancans, French checks, malvinas, lustres, and lining stuffs of colour, and any other material of coloured cotton not mentioned in other classes.

SECTION 7.

One Hundred Cents.

401. Fans of all classes.

402. Stockings, fringes, tassels, laces, ribbons, bands, cords, guimps, chenilles, caps, coverings, bows, epaulettes, socks and gloves of wool mixed with cotton.

403. Boots and shoes unmade up and without soles.

404. Made linen shirts, and cotton ones if partly of linen; and trousers, jackets, waistcoats, drawers, coats, paletôts, sacks, frocks, and any other article, ready made, of men's clothes of linen or cotton, excepting cotton shirts that belong to the 6th class.

405. Cloths, and any article of crochet work, except of silk.

406. Vestments, waterproof cloaks, altar linen, cloths and frontals, dalmatics, stoles, cloths for covering chalices, bands, and other ornaments for the use of priests and churches.

407. Cigarettes of paper or maize leaf.

408. Cravats of cotton, wool, or horsehair.

409. Curtains, hangings, and mosquito nets of linen or cotton.

410. Collars, breasts, and cuffs, of linen or cotton, for men's shirts.

411. Elastics, corsets, bodices, and garters of all kinds.

412. Skirts, dressing-gowns, pillow slips, and chemises of linen or mixed with cotton, excepting those of cambric, or clear cambric mixed with cotton.

413. Laces, insertings, blondes, edgings, ribbons, bands, purses, epaulettes, tassels, cords, fringes, socks, braids, gloves, and guimps of thread or cotton.

414. Swords, sabres, poignards, hunting-knives, blunderbusses, pistols, revolvers, guns, capsules, fulminators, keys, charged or empty cartouches, and all things belonging to fire or other arms of permitted importation.

415. Thread stockings, or those mixed with wool or cotton.

415. Muslin, book muslin, barège, organdie, tarlatan, Scotch cambric, cambric, and any other fine cotton stuff, white or coloured, plain, worked, open worked or embroidered, in whole or dress pieces.

417. Muslin and cambric of thread, or mixed with cotton, unbleached or coloured, in whole or dress pieces.

418. Cotton velvet, cotton plush, imitation of velvet, in pieces or ribbons.

419. Fine or coarse cloth, casimir, casinette, muslin, satin, net, flannel, bombazine, alpaca, merino, serge, and woollen damask mixed with cotton, and any other material, woollen or mixed with cotton, not mentioned in other classes, or that is made up in dresses, because then it belongs to the 8th class.

420. Shawls and scarves, large and small, of muslin, book muslin, net, or any other cotton material.

421. Handkerchiefs, shawls, scarves, large or small, table-covers, shirts and undershirts of wool, or mixed with cotton, without ornament, or mixed with silk.

422. Large and small umbrellas, and parasols of silk, or mixed with wool or cotton.

423. Dressed skins manufactured in any form, except those included in the preceding classes, and boots, shoes, and gloves that correspond to the 8th class.

424. Nett or tulle of cotton or aloes.

425. Saddles, head pieces, holsters, reins, girths, crupper, saddle and horse cloths of all kinds.

426. Hats of plush, black silk, high crowns, and any other hats of the same form of any material or colour, excepting those with springs that correspond to the 8th class.

427. Tobacco prepared in any form, excepting for chewing and that chopped for cigarettes.

Section 8.

Two Hundred Cents.

428. Head dresses and nets of all kinds.

429. Human hair and its imitations, manufactured or not.

430. Boots and shoes, except those of gum, which correspond to the 6th class.

431. Artificial flowers and fruits, and the materials for flowers, excepting coloured paper, comprehended in the 5th class.

432. Kid gloves, excepting those for fencing.

433. Cambric, net, lawn, tarlatane, muslin, and any other fine material of thread or cotton, made up in ruches, caps, robes, sleeves, pelerines, dresses, and any other thing not included in the preceding classes.

434. Cambric, book muslin, of thread or cotton, or any other fine material of thread or mixed with cotton, not included in the preceding classes.

485. Precious stones and jewellery; articles of gold and silver, or that have anything of these two materials; watches of any material, including in this class the empty cases prepared for watches and jewellery, though they may come separately.

436. Handkerchiefs of thread or mixed with cotton.

437. Feathers for adorning hats and bonnets, &c., and hearse plumes when they come separate from the hearses.

438. Silk, pure or when mixed with other material, manufactured in any form, and stuffs of other materials mixed with silk, excepting those articles that are especially named in other classes, such as umbrellas, church ornaments, masks, and others.

439. Hats, bonnets, and caps, except those denominated in preceding classes.

440. Stuffs of any material, mixed with or embroidered in silver or gold, real or false, excepting church and priest ornaments that belong to the 7th class.

441. Stuffs of wool, or mixed with cotton, made up in garments for either sex, or in mosquito nets, hangings, curtains, and other things not expressed in preceding classes.

442. And, in fine, any other articles not included in the former classes.

Art. 2. The duties are to be levied on the gross weight of the materials mentioned in the preceding article, and the cents fixed upon each class are hundredths of venezolanos.

Art. 3. Those articles the importation of which is prohibited are—

(1.) Salt.
(2.) Apparatus for coining money that does not come to the account of the nation.
(3.) False coin.
(4.) Guns, rifles, canon, carbines, and other arms belonging to artillery or infantry, as well as projectiles, capsules, and fulminants for the use of said arms, and machines of war, when they do not come on account of the general Government.

Art. 4. For the importation through the Custom-houses of the Republic of firearms that pay duty, and of powder, lead, capsules, fulminants, flints, and saltpetre, the permission or order of the Government is required.

Art. 5. When an article is determined, the material of which it is composed is not to be attended to, but to the classification which has been given to it: for example, syringes, playthings for children, masks, spy glasses, card cases, albums, and other specified articles, will pay the duty of the class in which they are included, of whatever material they may be made of, excepting only when they are of or have gold or silver, for then they belong to the 8th class.

Art 6. The parcels that contain samples in small pieces, and weigh more than 25 kilog., will pay upon the excess of said 25 kilogs. the duty of the 8th class.

Mr. Middleton to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Caracas, December* 8, 1874.

I HAVE the honour to inclose my Report upon the Commerce of Venezuela for the year 1874.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure.

Report by Mr. Middleton upon the Commerce of Venezuela for the Year 1874.

FROM the 24th of December last, the date of my last Report, the cessation of civil warfare, which had then extended over a period of nineteen months, was prolonged nearly three months longer, when a serious relapse took place, the city of Maracaibo suffering greatly from the burning of warehouses and destruction of property by conflicting parties; a further cessation

of civil warfare having ensued, extending to the month of October last, when the conflict, now raging principally in the central States, but with ramifications in both the eastern and western, was inaugurated; nearly the whole male population of the country having been called out to fight, and that, most unfortunately for commercial and material interests, just at the time of year when the coffee crop has to be gathered in, the female population being inadequate to the super-abundant labour entailed upon them, and when most money is in circulation and trade is usually the most brisk.

The coffee crop is said to be of a good average description both as to quantity and quality; although, from the cause referred to, it is impossible to form any idea as to the amount of the yield to be calculated upon, and the same may be said with respect to the cacao and cotton crops; prices in regard to the better qualities of the former product having rallied during some months past, and being from 10 to 15 per cent. higher than last year, whilst those attained by the latter have not improved, and its cultivation continues to be carried on upon a very limited scale.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks which, as it would appear, civil warfare is ever destined to place in the way of due commercial development in this country, the imports into it during the first months of the current year were considerable, demand having been lively and prices remunerative; buyers having been over-sanguine indeed, so that the cities and districts of the interior of the country are overstocked with merchandise; and it may be inferred that import duties in which a falling-off had already taken place, even before the civil warfare now raging had broken out and caused a natural timidity to prevail amongst importers, will suffer a further reduction in amount, and it may be considered doubtful whether the national revenue from July 1, 1874, to June 30, 1875, will reach 4,750,000 "Venezolanos," at which it was commonly estimated. However, conjectures on the subject can be but vague, since the reformed Tariff voted by the last Congress only came into force in October last, and consequently its new dispositions have not yet been tested.

The reforms effected appear to be generally approved;

and good results to be anticipated from them; they consist, principally, in all minor imposts such as warehouse dues, wharf dues, tonnage dues, license dues, &c., formerly separate charges by the original Tariff, in force since the 27th of April of last year, being incorporated into the Tariff itself; and in the abolishing of an additional tax of 5 per cent. on all import duties levied under the latter, the deficiency thus entailed to be made up for, as is conjectured, by an increase in the rate of duties imposed upon articles comprised in the sixth, seventh, and eighth classes, such eighth class being an addition to the seven constituting the former Tariff, which it was considered necessary to append in consequence of the incorporation of the dues above referred to. It may be remarked also, that such incorporation of dues, with the simplifying of proceedings attendant upon it, will be mostly to the advantage of sailing vessels, since steamers from Europe and elsewhere generally enjoyed an exemption from them at Venezuelan ports.

With respect to goods and articles of British manufacture it may probably be anticipated that the changes effected in the present Tariff will be but slightly felt, for whilst the rate of duty upon some of them has been slightly raised, upon others it has been lowered, and probably an adequate counterpoise has thus been created.

The system of charging duty according to gross weight has been maintained in the present reformed Tariff, but many of the stringent clauses subjecting importers to heavy fines and penalties for the slightest inaccuracies in invoices, declarations, descriptions, &c., of the former Financial Code have been modified or altogether suppressed by a second edition of it, in which the reformed Tariff is inserted.

By such Second Edition of the Financial Code, however, merchandize imported from the Antilles is subjected to the same rate of duty as if it were imported direct from Europe or other quarters of the globe, provided it arrives in the original packages, but an additional 10 per cent. is leviable upon it if repacked in the Antilles, and 20 per cent. if it be imported entirely unpacked.

The measure has been considered necessary, as it

would seem, on account of a practice adopted by certain importers in buying goods in the neighbouring Islands of Trinidad, Curaçao, or St. Thomas, and taking them on board their vessels unpacked, thus saving a considerable part of the duties which have to be paid by importers direct from Europe or other quarters of the globe upon the gross weight of their goods.

Whilst the changes and additions contained in the Second Edition of the Financial Code referred to may mostly, as it would appear, be justly considered as reforms and as evincing a greater disposition to promote the interests of commerce in general than that evinced in the First, they comprise one new regulation most especially detrimental to them, in diminishing confidence and promoting discontent in regard to foreign vessels, viz., the obligation entailed upon their captains to deliver to the Collector of Customs at the port of arrival, not only the register of vessels and other papers, but likewise the agreement with the crew, instead of depositing it with the Consular officer of their nation, and which, as far as Great Britain is concerned, captains are, by law, obliged to do within forty-eight hours after arrival, under a heavy penalty; and in order properly to estimate the evils likely to ensue practically from the enforcement of this regulation, it having been already enforced at Puerto Cabello in regard to an English vessel, it is necessary to bear in mind that Custom-houses, as well as all other public offices in this country, have so frequently to be closed in consequence of the recurrence of fête-days and national holidays, or on account of disturbances or civil warfare, the Consular officers now remaining for the time being without the means of investigating cases of disagreement between sailors and their employers or of fulfilling many other duties which may devolve upon them.

In my former Reports I have had occasion to remark upon the incongruity of a tax being levied upon vessels in Venezuelan ports for lighthouses ("derechos de faro") where lighthouses neither exist nor ever have existed, and have now to mention another incongruity of an almost incredible description connected with the stationing, some months back, of a small steam-tug at the Port of Maracaibo for the purpose of towing vessels over the bar; the parties to whom the privilege for doing so was

granted having been authorized thereby to levy a tax of 1½ pesos per Venezuelan ton, equal to about 10 pesos per English registered ton, whether the services of the tug were solicited or not, upon all shipping, steamers included.

It is true that by the exertions of a leading German firm in Caracas, the privilege referred to was disapproved in all its details by the last Congress: but that not before both the English and the German steamers plying between Maracaibo and Curaçao had, in spite of all remonstrances, been subjected more than once to the payment of the tax referred to.

The steam-tug as well as the steamers of the Orinoco Navigation Company of New York, plying between Ciudad Bolivar, Trinidad, and La Guaira, and touching at the ports of the Eastern States of the Republic, have undergone the fate which, as it would appear, permanently awaits any steamer in this country adopting the national flag, in being seized upon as a transport for troops.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Caracas, December 8, 1874.

COMMERCIAL. No. 8 (1875).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES

OF

EMBASSY AND LEGATION

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, &c.,

OF THE

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.

PART II.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, April 1875.

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Belgium.

Statistical and Commercial Report by Sir H. Barron.

Section A.—*General Statistics.*

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Section (A.)—*General Statistics.*

§ 1. STATEMENT showing the Political Divisions, the Density of the Population, and the Numbers of Electors and of Representatives.

Provinces.	Number of		Area of each Province.			Population.		Electors.		Legislature.	
	Arrondisements.	Communes.	Hectares.*	Square kilometre.†	Sq. miles.	1866.	Per square kilometre.	Parliamentary.	Municipal.	Representatives.	Senators.
Antwerp	3	150	283,173	2,831	1,093	465,607	164	13,655	36,649	12	6
Brabant	3	340	328,296	3,282	1,267	813,552	248	23,768	56,796	22	11
Flanders, West ..	8	250	323,467	3,234	1,250	642,217	198	12,882	45,029	16	8
,, East ..	6	296	299,995	3,000	1,160	805,835	269	17,433	59,402	20	10
Hainaut	6	435	372,162	3,721	1,436	845,438	227	18,696	68,198	22	11
Liège	4	335	289,388	2,893	1,117	557,194	192	12,526	35,282	14	7
Limbourg	3	206	241,234	2,412	931	195,302	81	3,499	13,218	5	2
Luxembourg . ..	5	205	441,776	4,417	1,705	199,210	45	2,933	12,668	5	3
Namur	3	351	366,025	3,660	1,413	307,778	83	5,743	20,199	8	4
Total	41	2,568	2,945,516	29,455	11,372	4,827,833	164	111,135	347,441	124	62
	Average population.		Acres.				Per square mile.	Number per 1,000 inhabitants.		1 for every	
	117,747	2,016	7,278,370				425	21·15	66·13	38,127	

* 1 hectare of 10,000 square mètres, equal to 2·471 English acres.
† 1 square kilomètre of 100 hectares, equal to 247·114 English acres, or 0·3861 square miles.

§ 2. The territory of Belgium is divided into 9 provinces, 41 administrative arrondissements, 303 "cantons de milice," and 2,568 communes. For judicial purposes it is divided into three districts, each of three provinces and having one Court of Appeal; into 26 judicial arrondissements, each having a Tribunal of First Instance; and into 203 "Cantons de Juge de Paix." The parliamentary coincide with the administrative arrondissements. The franchise has been brought down to the minimum allowed by the Constitution, viz., the payment of 43 fr. direct taxes to the State. Under this qualification the suffrage is very far from being universal, as it is enjoyed by only 21·15 per 1,000 inhabitants or about 1-13th of the adult male population, which was in 1866 1,438,000. The suffrage is in fact thoroughly in the hands of the middle class.

§ 3. A census is effected every ten years. The last, bearing specially on the population, agriculture, and industry of Belgium, was taken on the 31st of December, 1866. The census of the population, which was directed to three main points of investigation, viz., 1st, the birthplace; 2nd, the degree of instruction; 3rd, the profession, age, and "état civil" of each inhabitant, was published in 1870. The third volume, that on industry, has not yet appeared. The expense of this triple operation amounted to an aggregate sum of 740,000 fr. (29,600*l.*), about 1½*d.* per head. The English census of 1861 cost about 2*d.*, the American of 1860 about 3*d.* per head; yet neither of these was as copious as the Belgian census.

§ 4. The population of Belgium was found to amount to 4,827,833 souls. This was the "population de droit," *i.e.*, the "habitual residents" recorded in the communal registers and in all statistical returns. The *de facto* population, *i.e.*, the persons found actually existing in every commune, is also recorded in the census. The difference is of course considerable in some communes, but the aggregate difference throughout the Kingdom between the populations "de droit" and "de fait" was only 1,487, the latter being the more numerous. Each citizen may have three different habitations on the same day, viz., his legal (domicile), his habitual, and his accidental habitation. The first is defined by the civil code as that where he possesses his

"principal establishment." The "habitual residence" is alone taken into account for the census. Foreign diplomatic agents, their families, secretaries, and foreign servants have not been recorded.

§ 5. The number of households was found to be 1,038,898, with an average number of 4·65 inmates in each. In 1856 this average number was 4·84. The number of inhabited houses was 929,792, therefore little less than the number of households, showing the great difference between Belgian and French habits. The numbers of the two sexes are about equal throughout the Kingdom at large, the males preponderating by 11,155. Females enjoy a great advantage in point of longevity, while in the records of births and deaths males preponderate largely. In the rural communes males, and in urban communes females, are the most numerous.

§ 6. The Flemish language alone is spoken by 2,406,191 persons, about one-half of the population; the French language or dialect alone by 2,041,784 persons, and both languages are spoken by 308,361 persons. Of the whole population above seven years old 42 per cent. cannot read and write. Luxembourg contained the smallest proportion of illiterate persons. The other provinces come in the following order as regards instruction: Namur, Antwerp, Liége, Brabant, Limbourg, Hainaut, West and East Flanders; about 43,000 youths of 19 are annually called upon to draw lots for military service. The following figures show the education of these "miliciens" of the two levies of 1865 and 1874:—

	1865.	1874.
Could neither read nor write	13,828	8,727
Could read alone..	2,808	1,976
Could read and write	12,912	15,726
Possessed higher attainments	15,086	16,228
Education unknown	571	654
Total "miliciens" of year	44,455	43,311
Proportion per cent. who could read and write.	63·98	73·78

§ 7. The following Table shows the numbers of aliens residing in Belgium at the dates of each census:—

Birthplace.	1856.	1866.
France..	31,400	32,021
Netherlands	32,010	26,435
Dutch Limbourg and Luxembourg	17,213	13,044
Germany	15,242	20,701
Great Britain	4,092	3,003
All other countries	4,823	2,892
Total aliens	94,780	98,096

The decrease in the number of British and the increase in that of Germam residents are very remarkable. The numbers of English have fallen off considerably in all four communes which are their principal resorts, viz., Bruxelles, Ixelles, Bruges, and Antwerp.

§ 8. STATEMENT showing the Movement of the Population during the following Years.

Provinces.	Population.			Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	1856. Census.	1866. Census.	1873. Estimate.	1861–70. Average.	1873.	1861–70. Average.	1873.	1861–70. Average.	1873.
Antwerp..	434,485	465,607	513,543	15,616	18,854	11,637	11,451	3,693	4,496
Brabant..	748,840	813,552	922,468	27,838	31.246	21,268	21,059	6,723	7,601
Flanders, West	626,912	642,217	682,921	21,301	22,847	16,188	15,969	4,613	4,797
,, East	776,960	805,835	854,366	25,622	27,747	19,556	18,844	5,632	5,901
Hainaut..	769,065	845,438	932,036	26,463	29,072	17.922	18,086	6,512	7,735
Liège	503,662	557,194	623,165	18,046	20,131	13,389	13,317	4,263	4,979
Limbourg	191,708	195,302	202,922	5,827	6,457	4,432	4,312	1,349	1,412
Luxembourg	193,753	199,910	206,069	5,721	5,724	4,425	3,937	1,317	1,424
Namur	286,175	302,778	316,331	9.082	8,630	5,880	5,898	2,207	2,253
Total	4,429,560	4,827,833	5,253,821	155,513	170,708	114,497	112,873	36,309	40,598
Increase..	192,364	298,273	425,988	..	..	..	..	..	..
Annual average per 1,000 inhabitants .	..	..	..	32·42	33	23·71	21·81	7·52	7·84

§ 9. The increase of population between 1856 and 1866 amounted to 298,273 or 0·658 per cent. per annum,—this, notwithstanding the heavy loss of 43,400 lives from cholera in 1866. The rate of increase during the previous decennial period had been only 0·443 per cent. per annum. The increase of 425,988 souls recorded for 1873, would argue a still more rapid annual rate of increase (1·26 per cent); but the figure of 5,253,821 given as the estimated population in 1873, is certainly excessive. The annual returns of births and deaths are undoubtedly accurate, but the estimates of population founded on them are not to be depended on. The only sure ground for calculation is the census of 1866. The figures of 32·42, 23·71, and 7·52, may be taken as fair exponents of the average annual birth, marriage, and death rates, as based upon the census. But the corresponding rates for 1873, which are based on the estimated population of 1872, must fall short of the truth in the same ratio as the estimate exceeds the true population. The three rates in England, France, and Belgium, would appear to be as follows :—

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
England, 1864–73, average per 1,000 ..	35·05	22·04	8·45
France, 1872 „ „ ..	35·20	22·88	7·27
Belgium, 1861-70 „ „ ..	32·42	23·71	7·52

§ 10. In Brabant the three rates amount to 34, 26, and 8 per 1,000 respectively. The death-rate is highest in the two provinces of Brabant and West Flanders, (which, nevertheless, are those chiefly selected for residence by English families), and lowest in that of Namur (19 per 1,000). The deaths rose unaccountably in 1871, and receded again as shown by the following figures :—

	1861–70.	1871.	1872.	1873.
Deaths	114,497	145,746	120,129	112,873
Rate per 1,000 ..	23·71	28	24·44	21·81

Brussels equals and even surpasses other capitals in its rate of mortality. The population was in 1866 found to be 157,905. The average number of deaths in the

5 following years was 5,692 equal to 36 per 1000. The mortality rose in 1871 to the alarming figure of 6,973 or 44 per 1000, but subsided again in 1873 to 5,273, which on the estimated population of 177,100 in 1871 would amount only to 29 per 1000.

§ 11. Statement of the Population of Brussels and of the nine adjoining Communes on the 31st of December of the following years, according to the Census of 1866 and the Estimates of 1873.

	1866.	1873.
Brussels	157,905	180,172
Anderlecht	11,580	16,998
Etterbeeck	4,611	7,059
Ixelles	23,210	27,913
Koekelberg	3,554	4,942
Laeken	9,312	15,445
Molenbeeck	24,333	35,958
St. Gilles	9,922	19,590
St. Josse	21,915	26,374
Schaerbeeck	18,710	30,953
Total	285,052	365,404

The above increase of 80,000 souls in 7 years is manifestly impossible, and the figure of 365,404 is certainly excessive, as representing the population of the 10 Communes forming the agglomeration. The next three large towns are Antwerp with 141,910, Gand with 128,424, and Liège with 113,774. There are 13 other Communes with populations exceeding 20,000 and 46 between 10,000 and 20,000.

§ 12. Still births amounting to an average of 7,473 per annum are not counted either among the births or deaths. Illegitimate births amounted on the decennial average to 11,095 or 7·13 per cent. of all births. This figure rose to 12,122 in 1873, about the usual proportion, all births having much increased in 1872 and 1873. The proportion of illegitimate births is much the same as in France, much higher than in England or Ireland, (5·8 and 3·24 per cent. respectively), but much lower than those of Scotland (9 per cent.), Mecklenburg, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria (about 21 per cent). It is to be observed that nearly one-half of these children are generally legitimized on the subsequent marriage of the

parents. The demoralizing effect of the capital is shown in the Returns for Brabant and for Brussels, which rise to 12½ and 26 per cent. respectively. The most favoured province in this and many other respects is that of Namur, where the rate is only 4·20 per cent.

§ 13. STATEMENT of the Average Selling and Letting Value of Agricultural Land, in francs, per hectare, in each Province and in the whole Kingdom, during the following Years.

Provinces.	Value, 1846.		Value, 1856.		Value, 1866.	
	Selling.	Letting.	Selling.	Letting.	Selling.	Letting.
Antwerp	2,257	60	2,992	75	3,422	92
Brabant	3,284	83	4,305	100	5,210	135
Flanders, West	2,399	74	3,185	83	4,229	102
,, East	3,739	87	4,339	106	5,731	130
Hainaut	3,691	95	4,421	110	5,402	135
Liège	2,797	81	3,596	101	4,239	124
Limbourg	1,650	53	2,183	62	3,085	90
Luxembourg	758	33	1,043	39	1,403	44
Namur	1,824	50	2,464	64	2,790	77
The Kingdom	2,421	68	3,171	82	3,946	103
In £ sterling per acre ..	38·856	1·091	50·894	1·316	63·333	1·653

The value in francs per hectare (2·471 acres) may be reduced to the value in pounds sterling per acre in one operation, by multiplying the francs by the fraction 0·01605. Land which is already dearer here than anywhere else, continues to increase in value in every province. There are few if any countries where land will fetch on an average 63*l.* per acre. In East Flanders the average value is set down at 97*l.* per acre, which at the letting price of 2*l.* per acre represents 48½ years' purchase. In Brabant and Hainaut land is let at a higher, but sells at a lower, price, though still extravagantly dear. Yet few of these soils are the deep black loam constituting wheat land of the best quality. It was found in 1866 that one-half of the agricultural land was farmed by its owners and the other half by tenant farmers.

§ 15. Comparative Abstract of the Criminal Statistics, showing the Average Annual Numbers of Persons tried for Crimes, "Délits," and "Contraventions" during the five following Periods.

Periods.	Persons tried for		
	Crimes.	Délits.	Contra-ventions.
1832–39 (average)	557	23,564	18,704
1840–49 „	1,218	31,009	29,480
1850–55 „	2,556	34,764	40.161
1856–60 „	2,771	37,936	46,261
1861–67 „	2,813	41,528	49,335
Comparison of last with preceding period	+ 42	+ 3,592	+ 3,074

§ 16. There can hardly be a better test of the merits of political institutions than the criminal statistics. Unfortunately those statistics can seldom be procured of a recent date, or in a form susceptible of comparison with those of other countries, or even of former years. The above Table, compiled from an official source may be depended on as showing the progress of criminality, down to the end of 1867. This picture is indeed discouraging. No attempt can be made to disguise the increase of crime. No impression had evidently been made on this social malady down to the end of 1867, but it showed, on the contrary, a rapid rate of progress. The increase of criminal offences ran through all 9 provinces. The ratio of criminals to population is greatest in the provinces of Luxembourg and Hainaut, least in those of Namur and Limbourg.

§ 17. STATEMENT of the Number of Cases, and of Persons tried by the Three Different Criminal Tribunals, and of the Average Prison Population during the following Years.

Years.	Assize Courts.		Correctional Tribunals.		Police Tribunals.		Prisoners.
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	
1840 ..	325	482	16,567	24,314	14,910	24,018	6,981
1850 ..	163	270	16,125	24,482	32,403	49,890	7,267
1860 ..	177	254	15,974	23,556	39,019	57,732	6,383
1865 ..	144	181	16,871	24,133	42,345	63,993	5,550
1866 ..	152	173	17,119	24,185	43,121	65,908	5,129
1867 ..	153	211	16,775	24,236	43,269	65,264	5,397
1868 ..	124	182	17,118	24,608	41,462	64,636	5,504
1869 ..	106	132	16,174	20,084	48,611	71,274	5,255
1870 ..	110	139	18,140	26,507	47,976	70,279	4,984
1871 ..	123	149	16,764	24,939	52,909	78,277	4,058
1872 ..	147	191	14,863	22,693	48,922	69,766	4,005
1873 ..	139	184	19,140	27,901	55,400	80,278	4,147
Average:							
1863–67 .	152	189	17,011	24,517	42,679	64,396	5,358
1868–73 .	126	195	20,440	29,346	59,056	86,902	4,659

§ 18. The above Table is divided, not according to the nature of the offences committed, but according to the degree of the Tribunals by which these offences were tried. In theory "crimes," "délits," and contraventions" are tried each by the Criminal Tribunal of corresponding degree. This correspondence no longer holds good, since a Law of 1849, by which many "crimes" were "correctionalisés" *i.e.*, sent before the lower tribunal. This same tendency pervaded the Civil Code of 1867, which also mitigated generally the penalties attached to crime. Moreover, the penalty of death which still remains in the Code has never been enforced since 1863. The effects of this questionable policy are written plainly in the criminal statistics. The criminal classes have readily appreciated the facilities thus offered to them. The aggregate increase of criminal offences is a palpable fact, though the increase of each category is not clearly recorded. The number of cases tried by the Assize Courts has decreased owing to the transfer of many cases to the lower jurisdiction; but the numbers of persons implicated has increased in all the Courts as compared with the period ending in 1867. It is fair to state that the increase is mainly attributable to the great increase of crime in 1873, a year of extreme prosperity, high wages, drunkenness, and crime. With the present

free trade in poisonous liquors those four symptoms must go hand-in-hand. Thus what should be a blessing becomes a curse. The decrease in the prison population only points to the mitigation of penalties enacted in 1867.

Section B.—*Commerce and Industry of* 1874.

§ 19. Comparative Statement of the Commercial Progress of Belgium during a Period of Ten Years.

Values expressed in £ sterling.

Years.	Foreign Commerce.			Entrance Duties.	Vessels Entered.
	Imports.	Exports.	Aggregate.		
1864 ..	27,352,000	23,832,000	51,184,000	599,721	4,130
1869 ..	36,144,840	27,662,240	63,807,080	768,340	5,411
1870 ..	31,830,480	27,605,560	64,436,040	1,142,443	5,658
1871 ..	51,073,080	35,546,360	86,625,440	944,625	7,778
1872 ..	51,117,320	42,045,320	93,162,640	901,100	6,134
1873 ..	56,909,000	46,343,080	103,252,080	858,550	6,854
1874 ..	..	..	..	839,970	6,361

§ 20. Statement of the Quantities and Values of the Principal Imports of Belgium during the following Years.

Special Commerce.

Values expressed in units of 1,000 francs, or 40*l*.

Articles.	Quantities.			Values.	
	1872.	1873.	1874.	1872.	1873.
Cereals ... ... tons ...	422,955	697,114	638,939	126,621	221,579
Wool ... ... „ ...	53,359	53,379	50,829	160,079	130,104
Hides ... ... „ ...	32,599	41,955	34,082	71,719	92,301
Flax and hemp . ... „ ...	49,510	50,835	...	67,572	64,551
Coffee ... ... „ ...	22,282	22,632	19,082	42,642	54,214
Petroleum and resin .. „ ...	114,578	132,173	129,422	48,913	49,916
Timber ... ... sq. metres	476,116	477,567	489,000	41,433	47,626
Cattle and sheep ... head ...	366,049	427,983	334,728	44,905	47,516
Metals, minerals, earths. tons ..	337,494	327,916	...	47,249	45,908
Meat ... ... „ ...	12,821	29,808	9,479	19,232	44,713
Cotton ... ... „ ...	23,652	18,038	19,728	57,241	36,038
Grease ... ... „ ...	34,219	32,445	24,428	37,641	32,445
Manures . ... „ ...	107,023	124,914	...	26,756	31,229
Tissues of silk ... ... kilog. ...	188,796	196,886	202,656	30,207	27,564
„ wool ... ... „ ...	..	...	...	23,814	26,601
„ cotton . ... „ ...	965,161	1,292,557	1,589,936	10,754	13,671
Oil seeds . ... tons ...	72,556	67,009	63,172	29,023	26,804
Wine ... ... hectol. ...	198,827	197,629	171,153	21,598	21,440
Iron, ore . ... tons ...	790,593	739,540	744,781	21,316	19,968
„ pig . ... „ ...	137,008	145,211	161,485	14,386	18,578
Coal and coke ... ... „ ...	218,870	696,146	467,089	4,125	18,874
Rice ... ... „ ...	48,790	69,020	46,356	12,929	17,518
Oil ... ... „ ...	15,795	17,191	12,935	15,795	17,191
Tobacco ... ... „ ...	7,591	8,157	8,812	12,630	14,370
Chemicals	...	...	...	11,376	13,962
Sugar, raw ... ... tons ...	18,183	18,083	20,910	13,819	12,840
Copper and nickel, raw . „ ...	3,124	5,047	4,430	7,198	12,115
Machinery	...	...	...	10,932	12,018
Yarns, flax, and hemp . tons ...	2,071	2,046	1,612	10,427	10,298
All other articles	...	...	...	235,269	250,435
Total—					
Francs	...	...	...	1,277,933	1,422,725
£ sterling	...	...	...	51,117,320	56,909,000

§ 21. STATEMENT of the Quantities and Values of the Principal Exports of Belgium during the following Years.

Values expressed in units of 1,000 francs, or 40*l*.

Articles.	Quantities.			Values.	
	1872.	1873.	1874.	1872.	1873.
Coal and coke ... ... tons ...	5,357,088	4,959,723	4,461,000	106,222	145,464
Flax ... ... ,, ...	32,361	33,420	37,265	80,904	75,196
Yarns, woollen ... ... ,, ...	6,302	7,558	5,042	64,523	71,578
,, flax and hemp ... ,, ...	5,302	4,784	6,927	31,168	28,078
Tissues of wool ... ... ,, ...	2,946	2,695	2,809	44,830	39,585
,, linen ... ... ,, ...	5,878	4,285	4,480	37,170	27,565
,, cotton ... ... ,, ...	3,131	2,586	2,773	19,083	16,124
Iron, wrought ... ... ,, ...	210,043	181,660	225,098	52,176	56,657
Hides ... ... ,, ...	24,392	25,357	26,220	53,663	55,566
Machinery ... ... ,, ...	37,762	45,943	43,817	39,533	48,435
Wheat and barley ... ... ,, ...	77,632	145,778	188,907	20,023	46,615
Stones ... ... ,, ...	588,937	592,972	556,083	16,196	41,508
Sugar, raw ... ... ,, ...	62,926	62,958	71,534	41,531	37,818
,, refined ... ... ,, ...	8,776	10,601	12,185	8,255	9,120
Glass ... ... ,, ...	23,963	68,767	80,425	17,028	31,486
Meat ... ... ,, ...	7,185	17,986	10,926	10,659	26,980
Grease ... ... ,, ...	23,483	26,612	20,097	25,831	26,612
Zinc, raw ... ... ,, ...	35,266	33,191	30,954	21,160	24,894
Petroleum, refined ... ,, ...	32,582	52,505	52,171	17,269	21,002
Cattle, sheep, swine ... head ...	172,003	396,440	364,335	9,420	24,348
Hardware, including nails. tons ...	33,780	27,849	...	17,431	18,441
Paper ... ... ,, ...	16,609	13,593	12,690	21,518	17,580
Horses ... ... head ...	12,747	9,753	9,425	8,624	6,509
Arms ... ... francs ...	...	...	16,648	13,197	14,265
Butter ... ... tons ...	4,677	4,891	4,777	14,501	15,187
Candles ... ... ,, ...	6,394	5,697	5,928	15,985	14,245
Works of art ... ... francs ...	...	...	...	7,655	8,676
Horns, hoofs, &c. ... ... tons ...	...	...	...	8,797	8,467
Potatoes ... ... ,, ...	72,718	100,048	44,859	6,545	8,004
All other articles	...	...	...	219,336	194,772
Total—					
Francs	...	...	...	1,051,133	1,158,577
£ sterling	...	...	...	42,045,320	46,343,080

§ 22. The above three Tables will amply expose the progress of Belgian commerce during the last two years, although the values are not yet known for 1874. My Report of December 1873 showed that the aggregate "Special Commerce" had risen in 1872 to a figure previously unparalleled, viz., 93,162,540*l*. That figure has since been largely exceeded, having attained in 1873 the sum of 103,252,080*l*. The figure for 1874 has not yet been made known, but there will have been probably a slight decrease on the aggregate commerce, as a natural reaction after the exceptional activity of 1873.

§ 23. Comparison of the Foreign Commerce of 1874 with that of 1873 as regards the principal Articles of Merchandize. Values expressed in francs.

Imports.

Increase.

	Francs.
Cereals—	
Wheat, spelt, meslin	15,969,523
Oats, maize, buckwheat	7,257,647
Silk	7,425,605
Arms	3,501,972
Cotton	2,815,555
,, tissues of	3,381,330
Petroleum, refined	3,139,078
Butter	2,709,563
Eggs	2,114,540
Iron—	
Pig and scrap	2,115,564
Rails	1,283,527
Sugar—	
Raw	2,007,184
Syrup, molasses	1,717.394
Flax	1,797,682
Tobacco	1,207,525

Decrease.

Meat	30,493,737
Hides	17,419,940
Coffee	8,895,530
Grease	8,013,012
Coals	7,256,341
Cereals—	
Flour	6,829,100
Barley	5,908,921
Rye	2,288,229
Wool	5,737,880
Rice	5,158,245
Oils	4,255,582
Steel, in bars, sheets, wire	4,111,501
Animals—sheep, swine	5,391,144
Resin and bitumen	3,138,674
Wine	2,400,309

Exports.

Increase.

	Francs.
Cereals	18,226,804
Yarns of flax, hemp, &c.	11,428,250
Sugar—	
Raw	9,395,200
Refined	2,334.839
Flax	8,650,722

	Francs.
Glass, window	6,670,917
Wrought iron—	
Sundry	5,349,562
Rails	5,206,899
Sheets	2,512,907
Hardware	3,002,262
Silk	2,468,375
Arms	2,383,049
Cattle	2,056,920
Woollens	1,912,014
Wool, Belgian	1,749,330

Decrease.

	Francs.
Yarns, woollen	24,634,489
Meat	9,591,069
Mineral fuel—	
Coke	9,996,227
Coal	7,195,719
Grease	6,514,614
Potatoes	4,415,136
Linens	4,958,063
Sheep	3,853,813
Cereals—	
Rye	2,103,327
Flour	1,122,872
Stones	2,582,248
Zinc, raw	1,677,954

§ 24. The aggregate commercial movement of 1874 as regards the principal articles has resulted in a decrease of 6 per cent. in the imports and in an increase of 1 per cent. on exports. It must be remembered, however, that these returns are swelled by vast quantities of goods passing through Belgium without paying duty, which are unduly recorded as "imports" and "exports," instead of as "goods in transit."* Then the valuations, not having yet been revised for 1874, are the same as those adopted for 1873. The figures therefore in the above Table are to be taken as representing less the comparative values than the comparative quantities of goods. The valuations of goods are annually revised for the detailed "Tableau Général," which appears in October. A great decrease is recorded both in the imports and exports of the present year as compared with the beginning of 1874.

§ 25. In reviewing the trade of 1874 between Belgium and the United Kingdom with the help of the

* *Vide* my Report of 1873, § 24.

temporary returns as yet procurable, the following fluctuations are those most deserving notice. It is evident however that many of these goods recorded as imports and exports really pass through one or both of the two territories for purposes of transit.

IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

Increase.

Beer, bark, iron ore, woollen yarns, hops, paper, petroleum, rice, silk, molasses, refined sugar, cotton tissues.

Decrease.

Steel, butter, candles, coffee, coal, coke, horses, copper, pig iron, iron wire, rails, sheet and bar iron, hardware, tow, flax, cotton yarns, linen yarns, oil seeds, cereals, oils, machinery, hides, lead, fish, refined petroleum, resin, salt, tobacco, linens, silk lace, meat.

EXPORTS TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Increase.

Arms, candles, horses, wrought iron, hops, oils, machinery, eggs, paper hangings, soda, sugar (raw and refined), woollens, window glass, meat (poultry and rabbits), zinc.

Decrease.

Butter, brandy, copper, rags, flax, woollen yarns, Belgian wool, paper, books, resin, cigars, linens, plate glass, bottles, glass wares.

§ 26. The year 1874 has passed away amidst a general stagnation of trade, particularly of the two great staple trades of Belgium. The fall of coal, inevitable after the extravagant rise of 1873, had almost reached its present limits in the first days of 1874. But the metal, glass, sugar, and building trades, crushed by the preceding coal famine, has fallen into a state of languor from which nothing has yet been able to raise them. All parties seem to be waiting in suspense, vainly seeking to divine the future range of prices.

§ 27. The exactions of the labouring class, a legacy of the coal famine, threaten to cripple every industry. Wages have not been generally reduced: therefore the prices of coal have to be bolstered up to an artificial level, in spite of the absence of demand. A lower range of prices and of wages are unpleasant but unavoidable necessities. Acording to the last accounts from Charleroy both of these reductions are being quietly effected.

The prices of coal there range from 12½ fr. to 25 fr. per ton, according to the description of coal.

§ 28. The quantity of coal raised in Hainaut in 1873 was 11,652,953 tons, about the same as in 1873; but its value is estimated at 17*s.* 4*d.* per ton instead 11*s.*, therefore at an aggregate of 10,211,060*l.* The number of hands employed was 79,556, being 5,873 more than in 1872. Their annual average wage was 55·68*l.* per head, being an increase of 40 per cent. over the preceding year. The cost of production is estimated at 7,596,664*l.* or 0·641*l.* per ton, and the net profit at 0·223*l.* per ton. The aggregate profits are estimated at 2,614,396*l.*, or 122 per cent. more than in 1872. The quantity raised, as compared with the number of hands, was only 146 tons per workman, a decrease of 11 tons. These 11 tons at the average price of 17*s.* 4*d.* are worth 9·526*l.*, which added to the enhanced wages (14·24*l.*) give 23·76*l.* as the increased cost of each workman as compared with 1872. In England the average production of each workman in 1873 was 250 tons, therefore 104 more than in Hainaut. This explains how, in spite of higher wages, English can undersell Belgian coal even in Belgium itself.

§ 29. The imports of foreign coal into Belgium amounted in 1874 to 458,282 tons, being more than in 1872 but less than in 1873. In the above total English coal counts for 243,361 tons, and Prussian for 76,000. The exports of coal decreased by 721,650 tons as compared with 1872, and by 271,537 tons as compared with 1873. The exports of coke have suffered still more than those of coal. The aggregate value of coal and coke exported in 1874 was 5,130,883*l.* or 687,677*l.* less than in 1873. The great bulk of these exports goes to France.

§ 30. STATEMENT of the Average Prices of Iron at Charleroy in the month of January of the following Years, in francs, per ton of 1,000 kilog., equal to $\frac{984}{1000}$ of an English ton.

Description.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Pig iron—				
Forge	80	140	120	80
Foundry, No. 1	110	180	160	110
„ No. 3	100	170	150	100
Charcoal	180	230	200	180
Bar iron—				
No. 1	180	320	250	185
No. 2	195	335	265	195
No. 3	210	350	280	205
Rails	170	300	250	185
Split iron—				
Soft .. .. per ½ ton	85	155	120	90
For nails .. .. „	90	160	125	95
Best strong .. „	95	165	130	100
Sheet iron—				
1st quality .. „	270	470	320	260
2nd quality .. „	250	450	300	240
Fine .. .. „	450	650	500	400

§ 31. The above figures showing the great fluctuations of this trade may be usefully compared with the Table of Prices embodied in my Report of 15th April, 1862. After a short period of prosperity prices have now relapsed to the level of 1872, and even at that level are little more than nominal. The year 1874 would have been favourable had the prices been better. The exports of rails, nails, bar, sheet, and split iron all progressed, showing an aggregate of 273,946 tons for all descriptions, being an increase of 37,228 tons, comprising a material decrease in the exports of pig iron. The great bulk of these exports are rails and bar iron. The increased value of the exports of iron is set down at 642,864*l.*, but as this figure is based on the valuations of 1873 it is altogether deceptive. The imports of steel of all kinds amounted to 11,260 tons, the exports to 5,208 tons.

§ 32. The iron trade is suffering still more than the coal trade. The excessive enhancement of this metal has induced a preference for steel. The prodigious increase of the steel manfacture in Germany has lowered its price and increased the use of it. Steel

rails at 10*l.* per. ton are gradually supplanting those of iron. This is the most palpable result of the vicissitudes of the last few years. Iron has fallen back to its former prices, which with the enhancement of coal and labour, are now utterly unremunerative. The present year opens under the gloomiest auspices for those works not equipped for the production of steel. A lower level of prices and wages must yet be submitted to. But the total absence of orders leaves little hope to be derived even from these measures. Some faint hope is awakened by the Welsh lock-out and by rumours of further strikes in England. Some orders have even been sent already to this market from Cardiff.

(Signed) H. BARRON.

Brussels, March 5, 1875.

France.

Preliminary Report by Mr. Adams on the Financial Position of France.

M. Mathieu-Bodet, the late Minister of Finance, addressed his Financial Report to the President on the 4th of January. From it we learn that the public charges have been increased, owing to expenses in respect of loans contracted on account of the war of 1870, and to supplementary expenses resulting from the reorganization of the Army and the extension of certain services.

M. Magne, the previous Minister of Finance, in his Report of the 2nd of November, 1873, estimated the expenses of the war at 371,515,280*l.*, but the Assembly has since voted further sums under the head of the Liquidation Account, as well as further indemnities to the victims of the war, so that the above amount must be increased to 392,818,520*l.*, besides which, there is a loss of annual revenue resulting from the annexation of Alsace-Lorraine to the German Empire amounting to 2,655,600*l.*

Now, in order to meet the cost of the war, different loans have been contracted, the gross amount being 343,728,425*l.*

	£
The annual charges to France resulting from these loans amount to	25,271,668
Add other increases of expenditure to these charges	2,865,542
And certain charges in the different Ministries ..	10,311,213
	38,448,423
Less reductions for the same period ..	7,443,928
Total increase since 1870..	31,044,495
Add annual loss from Alsace-Lorraine ..	2,655,600
Total	33,660,095

It must, however, be remembered that this sum includes the annual 8,000,000*l.* to be repaid to the Bank

of France,* so that in fact the net increase of the annual charge imposed by the war of 1870, amounts to a sum of over 25,500,000*l.* sterling.

The Assembly, says M. Mathieu-Bodet, has created new taxes to the amount of 26,740,280*l.*, so that the annual burden of the war would seem to have been hitherto met.

He states that the excess of the ordinary expenditure over the ordinary receipts in the last three years are as follows :—

	£
1872	6,648,502
1873	8,365,683
1874	2,072,608
Total	17,086,793

But if from this total the three annual repayments of 8,000,000*l.* to the Bank of France were deducted, there would be a surplus of nearly 7,000,000*l.* on the three years.

It would therefore seem that the financial situation at the end of 1874 was flourishing.

Before the war of 1870, the deficit was at least inconsiderable compared with the large amounts which have since been provided for by the creation of new taxes.

Still it must be recollected that in the last four years the Assembly has voted new taxes to the annual amount of 26,740,280*l.*, and these cannot all be expected to have realized the full amount estimated. Many have, however, shown a considerable increase, and the only danger seems to be from the annual increase of the expenditure which necessitates a continual creation of new taxes, and hence a depreciation of the yield from the old taxes may be feared in the future.

Budget of 1875.

According to M. Mathieu-Bodet's Report, the Budget of 1875 on the 31st of December, 1874, showed a deficit of 968,407*l.*, to which must be added the sum of 1,600,000*l.* out of a credit of twice that sum opened by the Bank of France, and figuring in the receipts. The real deficit therefore is 2,568,407*l.*

* See Lord Lytton's Report of December 23, 1873.

Budget of 1876.

For the Budget of 1876 the expenditure is estimated at 104,664,117*l.*, whilst the receipts, including the second sum of 1,600,000*l.* from the Bank of France, are estimated at 101,128,035*l.*, so that the deficit would amount to 3,536,082*l.*

It is considered that no reduction can be made in the expenditure, and M. Mathieu-Bodet states that as the Assembly has shown great repugnance to create new taxes, he proposes to make up the existing deficit by improvements in the mode of collecting existing taxes, and by the abolition of certain privileges and exemptions.

The means proposed by the Minister to fill up this deficit are as follows:—

	£
Indirect taxes or Excise duties	1,700,000
Registration dues	985,560
Customs duties	693,659
Direct taxes	346,400
Total	3,725,619

Now the amount of revenue already estimated is, as has been seen, 101,128,035*l.*, which, when added to the above estimate of new resources, brings the whole revenue to 104,853,654*l.*, and as the expenditure for 1876 is estimated at 104,664,117*l.*, there would be a surplus of revenue over expenditure for 1876 of 189,537*l.*

M. Mathieu-Bodet says that, if the whole of his plan were voted by the Assembly in the first months of 1875, the resources thus created would also benefit the Budget of 1875, for the last nine months of that year.

	£
The produce, thus diminished by a fourth for 1875, would be	2,794,214
And as the deficit is	2,568,419
The surplus would become	225,795

The Budgets of 1875 and 1876 would thus be balanced, and the 3,200,000*l.* of advances from the Bank of France need not then be used, but that sum could be carried to the credit of the Liquidation Account.

But unfortunately the Assembly has now prorogued itself, without having adopted M. Mathieu-Bodet's plan,

and it does not reassemble until the 11th of May. In point of fact, it has only passed two or three of his proposed measures, and has rejected one of them. I have not thought it necessary to enter into the details here as to the means proposed by M. Mathieu-Bodet to raise additional revenue, because, since I commenced writing this Report, he has ceased to be Minister of Finance. It remains to be seen what his successor, M. Léon Say, will propose, and what course the Assembly will pursue. This will be the subject of a further Report.

M. Mathieu-Bodet also published in January a return of the produce of taxes in 1874, as well as of the estimates for that year and of the produce of the taxes in 1873. I extract the following from his document.

1. *Direct Taxes.*

The roll of the direct taxes for 1874 amounted to 26,732,360*l.*, eleven-twelfths of which, or 24,504,680*l.*, were due on the 31st of December last. The payments received during the year reached 25,569,840*l.* or an excess over the eleven-twelfths of 1,065,160*l.*

The Law proceedings amounted to 49,948*l.* This gives a proportion of 1 fr. 86 c. for every 1,000 fr., or an increase of 4 c. for every 1,000 fr. on the year 1873. There appears therefore to have been greater difficulty in collecting the taxes in 1874.

2. *Taxes on Personal Property.*

The tax of 3 per cent. on the revenue from property other than real, and which may therefore be termed "personal property,"* was valued for 1874 at 1,280,000*l.* but produced 1,366,960*l.*, or an excess of 86,960*l.* over the estimate.

* It should be recollected that there is no income tax in France. The holder of Rentes receives the interest without any deduction for such a tax.

3.—Indirect Taxes and Revenue, 1874.

	Indirect Taxes.		Excess.	Deficit.
	Returns Realized.	Budget Estimates.		
	£	£	£	£
Registration, successions, &c...	17,218,560	17,908,240	..	689,680
Stamps	6,083,680	5,940,720	142,960	..
Customs on divers articles ..	5,755,360	5,923,000	..	167,640
Colonial sugar	1,316,160	1,925,880	..	609,720
Foreign sugar	480,000	1,026,320	..	546,320
Export duties	15,720	21,040	..	5,320
Statistical duty	215,880	240,000	..	24,120
Navigation dues	184,280	172,040	12,240	..
Divers Customs charges ..	110,840	83,480	27,360	..
Salt, Customs	817,120	939,840	..	122,720
,, indirect taxes	315,680	350,160	..	34,480
Wines and spirits	13,924,000	14,747,480	..	823,480
Native sugar	4,257,000	3,916,880	340,120	..
Matches	396,520	640,000	..	243,480
Chicory	199,400	200,000	..	600
Paper	420,800	416,000	4,800	..
Mineral oil	12,160	8,000	4,160	..
Other oils	195,880	250,000	..	54,120
Soap	213,320	280,000	..	66,680
Stearine and candles.. ..	230,400	360,000	..	129,600
Railway duty	3,406,080	3,353,280	52,800	..
Divers duties and receipts ..	1,892,000	1,587,120	304,880	..
Tobacco	11,950,760	11,490,800	459,960	..
Gunpowder	492,360	513,240	..	20,880
Post Office	4,299,680	4,155,720	143,960	..
Money orders	54,640	44,000	10,640	..
Net proceeds from the Foreign Office	158,200	160,000	..	1,800
Sundry receipts from the Post Office	3,120	1,160	1,960	..
Total*	74,619,600	76,654,400	1,505,840	3,540,640
Deficit in returns	..	..	..	2,034,800
Portion of taxes not collected owing to delay in passage of Bill	..	334,400	..	334,400
		76,988,800	..	2,369,200

* Including the residue to be collected in the second part of 1874, which amounts to 787,520*l*.

4.—Comparison of the Returns of 1874 with those of 1873.

	Proceeds of 1874.		Proceeds of 1873.	Excess in 1874.	Deficit in 1874.
	New Taxes not recoverable in 1873.	Taxes to be compared with those of 1873.			
	£	£	£	£	£
Registration, succession, &c. ..	665,680	16,552,880	16,857,640	..	304,760
Stamps	444,920	5,638,760	5,597,160	41,600	..
Customs on divers articles ..	199,560	5,555,800	5,907,240	..	351,440
Colonial sugar ..	50,400	1,265,760	1,492,280	..	226,520
Foreign sugar ..	18,480	461,520	1,254,480	..	792,960
Export duties ..	..	15,720	13,680	2,040	..
Statistical duty ..	..	215,880	219,960	..	4,080
Navigation dues ..	..	184,280	176,680	7,600	..
Divers Customs charges ..	..	110,840	114,080	..	3,240
Salt, Customs ..	..	817,120	1,032,000	..	214,880
,, indirect taxes..	..	315,680	391,120	..	75,440
Wines and spirits ..	965,320	12,958,680	13,145,360	..	186,680
Native sugar ..	166,280	4,090,720	4,107,920	..	17,200
Matches	..	396,520	353,640	42,880	..
Chicory	..	199,400	176,800	22,600	..
Paper	19,920	400,880	400,680	200	..
Mineral oil ..	..	12,160	5,240	6,920	..
Other oils ..	195,880	..	..	..	..
Soap	213,320	..	..	..	..
Stearine and candles.	230,400	..	..	..	..
Railway duty ..	518,760	2,887,320	2,832,680	54,640	..
Divers duties and receipts (indirect taxes)	54,560	1,837,440	1,735,400	102,040	..
Tobacco	..	11,950,760	11,639,520	311,240	..
Gunpowder ..	..	492,360	458,520	33,840	..
Post Office ..	..	4,299,680	4,181,520	118,160	..
Money orders ..	..	54,640	46,120	8,520	..
Net proceeds from the Foreign Office	..	158,200	166,920	..	8,720
Sundry receipts from the Post Office ..	..	3,120	1,600	1,520	..
Total ..	3,743,480	70,876,120	72,308,240	753,800	2,185,920
		74,619,600			
Total deficit in 1874		..	..	..	1,432,120

The result of the above Tables 3 and 4 with reference to old and new taxes are stated to be made up as follows:—

	Old Taxes.	New Taxes voted in 1871 and 1872.	New Taxes voted in 1873 and 1874.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
Receipts of 1874 ..	52,849,640	18,026,480	3,743,480	74,619,600
Corresponding Budget Estimates	53,941,760	18,307,040	4,405,600	76,654,400
Deficit	1,092,120	280,560	662,120	2,034,800

	Old Taxes.	New Taxes voted in 1873 and 1874.	Total.
	£	£	£
Budget receipts, 1874	52,849,640	18,026,480	70,876,120
„ 1873	53,588,160	18,720,080	72,308,240
Deficit in receipts of 1874 ..	738,520	693,600	1,432,120

According to the foregoing returns the yield of the indirect taxes in 1874 exceeded that of 1873 by about 2,300,000*l.* sterling. This is the difference between 74,619,000*l.* and 72,308,000*l.* But new taxes to the amount of over 3,500,000*l.* were created in 1874, and comparing the produce of the taxes which existed in 1873, or 72,308,000*l.*, with the produce of the same taxes in 1874, or 70,876,120*l.*, they will be found to have realized about 1,400,000*l.* less in 1874 than in 1873. They have also realized in 1874 over 2,000,000*l.* less than the estimates.

On a comparison between the receipts and the estimates from indirect taxes in 1874 it will be seen that the items which show the greatest miscalculations to the loss of the revenue, are: registration and other legal fees, colonial and foreign sugar, matches, wines, and spirits. While the receipts from native sugar have increased by 340,000*l.* those from colonial and foreign sugar have decreased by 1,155,000*l.*, so that there is a clear loss upon all sugar of 815,000*l.* and a decrease in the total duty realized as compared with 1873 of 801,000*l.* The amount of foreign and colonial sugar imported in 1874 is therefore considerably less than that in 1873, which would seem to indicate that these sugars cannot now compete with the French sugar made from beetroot. The receipts from wines and spirits are 779,000*l.* less than in 1873, and 823,000*l.* less than the estimate.

This decrease, which has taken place in a good wine year, is to be accounted for, not by a decrease in the amount of liquor consumed, but by a reduction in the amount of alcohol in that liquor. Salt also shows a visible diminution, but it appears that large provisions of that article were made in 1873 in anticipation of an increase in the duty.

Amongst the items which show an increase, tobacco figures conspicuously. The duty in 1874 has produced 160,000*l.* more than the estimate, and 311,000*l.* more than in 1873. Stamps, railway duty, and the post office have realized more than the estimates, and more than in 1873.

(Signed) F. O. ADAMS.

Paris, March 23, 1875.

Italy.

Report by Mr. Herries on the Financial Condition of Italy in the Year 1873.

The Accounts for the year 1873, which have been laid before the Italian Parliament by the Minister of Finance, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Accounts Law of April 22, 1869, show the following results :—

The actual receipts into the Treasury as authorised by Parliament for the service of the year amounted to 1,340,785,269 Italian lire 59 c., viz.: Ordinary receipts, 1,180,656,713 lire 03 c.; Extraordinary receipts, 160,128,556 lire 56 c.

The total amount of the payments out of the Treasury was 1,384,618,020 lire 88 c., of which 1,197,052,506 lire 95 c. came under the head of ordinary, and 187,565,513 lire 93 c. under that of extraordinary expenditure.

There was, consequently, an excess of payments over receipts amounting to 43,832,751 lire 29 c. which sum, however, was diminished by the deduction of 1,914,407 lire 41 c., the surplus received in 1873 from the winding up of the financial accounts of formerly existing Italian States, leaving, with the addition of a special item of 45,930, a final deficit of 41,964,273 lire 88 c.

The arrears of receipts and payments remaining due at the close of the year on the voted estimates stood as follows :—

	Lire	c.
Ordinary receipts	57,318,805	30
Extraordinary ditto	60,822,059	29
Total receipts in arrear	118,140,864	59

	Lire	c.
Ordinary expenses	70,690,149	60
Extraordinary ditto	97,543,903	65
Total payments in arrear	163,234,053	25

After deduction of a small outstanding sum to be received on the accounts of former Governments, there remained an excess of payments over receipts in arrear to the extent of 50,074,474 lire 19 c.

The balance in the Treasury rose in the course of the year from 93,281,703 lire 30 c. on the 1st of January, to 125,089,900 lire 52 c. on the 31st of December, when the Treasury account showed credits to the amount of 138,068,382 lire 46 c. against 368,921,922 lire 14 c. of liabilities. The excess of the letter was, therefore, 105,763,639 lire 16 c.

A comparison of the actual receipts and payments with the estimates of income and expenditure approved by Parliament shows a diminution of 47,732,602 lire 86 c. under the former, and a diminution of 190,869,169 lire 60 c under the latter head. The variations in their several branches are exhibited by the subjoined figures :—

INCOME.

Ordinary Revenue.	Estimates Approved.		Actual Receipts.	
	Lire	c.	Lire	c.
Land and house taxes.. ..	231,504,300	00	215,179,191	30
Income tax	202,498,000	00	193,009,538	53
Grist tax	69,360,000	00	64,347,119	39
Taxes on the transfer of property and business transactions ..	122,986,817	24	129,272,900	85
Excise	1,980,000	00	1,819,493	41
Customs	96,000,000	00	96,707,161	03
Consumption duties	59,688,694	00	59,709,260	52
Monopolies	148,364,685	00	149,543,803	51
Lottery	69,035,461	15	71,075,784	05
Public services	50,353,712	32	47,956,454	63
State property	44,404,125	00	44,854,744	16
Eventual receipts	6,522,155	40	7,897,023	12
Repayments, &c.	89,940,954	66	87,037,815	63
Extraordinary receipts ..	148,799,064	47	108,933,859	31
Ecclesiastical fund receipts ..	53,079,903	21	63,441,120	15

EXPENDITURE.

Departments.	Estimates Approved.	Actual Payments.
Finance—	Lire c.	Lire c.
Debt, Guarantees, and Dotations	775,902,473 34	739,867,543 75
Administration	199,876,723 01	135,052,922 89
Ecclesiastical Funds ..	25,136,660 00	19,278,011 51
Reserve Fund	1,198,822 37	..
Total Finance	1,002,114,678 72	894,198,478 15
Grace and Justice and Public Works	31,478,792 00	29,294,798 18
Foreign Affairs	5,914,384 13	5,187,175 67
Public Instruction	21,637,125 25	19,176,777 69
Interior	56,831,999 77	50,801,876 14
Public Works	198,025,245 15	159,984,896 08
War	203,092,793 66	180,970,490 37
Marine	43,473,591 68	34,799,464 49
Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce	12,923,580 12	10,204,064 11
Total	1,575,487,190 48	1,384,618,020 88

The principal of the public debt was calculated on the 31st of December, 1873, as amounting to the sum of 8,783,144,466 lire 16 c. under different heads as follows :—

	Calculated Principal.
	Lire c.
Consolidated 5 per cent. "Rendita"	6,751,919,603 60
Ditto 3 per cent. ditto..	213,602,681 33
Perpetual and inalienable 5 per cent. "Rendita," standing in the name of the Holy See, 3,225,000 lire	64,500,000 00
Debts inscribed separately in the Great Book ..	1,315,806,855 70
Debts not yet inscribed in the Great Book ..	437,315,325 53
Total	8,783,144,466 16

There were in circulation on the 31st of December, 1872, Treasury bonds to the amount of 136,875,600, lire, the interest upon which was 5,125,807 lire 50 c. The number of such bonds issued in the year 1873, was 39,694, for sums of 500 lire, 1,000 lire, 2,000 lire, 5,000 lire, 10,000 lire, 50,000 lire, and 100,000 lire,

each representing a total amount of 242,307,000 lire, the interest thereon being 9,741.454 lire 30 c.

The value of the bonds paid off in the course of the year was 194,775,500 lire, bearing 6,018,821 lire 75 c. interest, and there remained in circulation on the 31st of December, 1873, bonds representing the total sum of 183,753,000 lire with 8,819,511 lire 35 c. interest.

(Signed) EDWARD HERRIES.

Rome, February 3, 1875.

Netherlands India.

Report by Mr. Fenton on the Railways of the Dutch East Indian Possessions.

The railways in the Dutch East Indies consist, at the present time, of two lines only, both situate in the Island of Java.

General description.

The one runs from the Port of Samarang, on the northern coast of the island, in a south-easterly direction to Kedoeng-Djatie, whence there is a side branch running south-west to the town called Willem I. From Kedoeng-Djatie the main lines continues in a south-easterly direction to Goendih, thence nearly due south to the important town of Soerakarta, and then turning towards the south-west, reaches the terminus of the railway at Djokdjokarta, a place lying due south of Samarang.

The entire length of the main line from Samarang to Djokdjokarta is 165·7 kilom., that of the side branch from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I, 36·4 kilom., making together 202·1 kilom.

The other railway runs in a direction due south from Batavia, the capital city and seat of the general Government of the Dutch East Indies, to Buitenzorg, a place at which the Governor-General has his country residence. The length of this line is 55·1 kilom.

Thus the aggregate length of the two Dutch East Indian lines of railway is 257·2 kilom., or about 160 English miles.

Both lines constructed by a Company.

Both these lines of railway were constructed under Government Concessions by the "Netherland Indian Railway Company," an Association constituted, and having the seat of its Board of Directors and chief office in the Netherlands.

The Concession for the line from Samarang to Djokdjokarta was originally granted to three private individuals and was sold by them to the Company for a

sum of 32,000 florins, about £2,665*l*. It was confirmed by Royal Decree, and came into force on the 6th of July, 1863. The Concession for the line from Batavia to Buitenzorg was granted direct to the Company by the Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies in June 1865, but it was not confirmed by Royal Decree until July 1868.

The general conditions of the Concessions, which were in many respect the same for both lines, were as follows :—

General conditions of concession.

The Government engaged to cede to the Company, free of cost and for the same period of time as the duration of the Concession itself, the land required for either railway, in all cases where the lines passed over Government property. Where land belonging to private individuals might be wanted, the Company was empowered to acquire it from the owners under the provisions of the law of expropriation for works of public utility.

Exemption from import duty in Java was granted to the Company on iron rails and iron works, as well as on all unmanufactured materials of every description necessary for the construction of both the lines.

The Company undertook to complete and to commence working the first section of the Samarang line, namely, that from Samarang to Kedoeng-Djatie, with the branch from that station to Willem I (together, 70·6 kilom.), within four years, and the section from Kedoeng-Djatie to Djokdjokarta (131·5 kilom.) within eight years, from the date of the confirmation of the Concession; and to complete and commence working the whole line from Batavia to Buitenzorg within four years from the confirmation of the Concession.

The duration of the Concession for the one line and the other was fixed at 99 years, reckoning from the date at which each should be opened to traffic in its entire length, with the provisio that any Concessions which the Government might subsequently grant to the Company for the construction of branches from either of the two main lines, should expire at the same time as the Concessions for the main lines themselves.

By the Concession for the line from Samarang to Willem I and Djokdjokarta, it was stipulated that, in

consideration of certain annual advances of money which the Government agreed to make to the Company (as will be explained further on), the entire line, with the stations and all other accessories, should, on the expiration of the ninety-nine years of the Concession, become the absolute property of the State, whilst the locomotives, rolling stock, furniture at the stations, stocks of firing and other materials should be taken over by the Government at a valuation.

The Government further reserved to itself the right to take over the line, with the stations, rolling stock, and everything else appertaining to it after the expiration of twenty years from the date at which the whole line should have been opened to traffic, or after the expiration of each successive period of ten years; and engaged in either of these cases to pay to the Company, as the purchase money, a sum equal to twenty-five times the amount of the average net annual revenue obtained from the working of the line during the five most productive years out of the seven years immediately preceding that in which the line should be claimed, with the proviso, however, that the sum to be so paid should not be less than the amount of the original capital of the Company, minus the sums applied to the redemption of its shares or debentures.

With respect to the line from Batavia to Buitenzorg, in favour of which the Government did not undertake any pecuniary obligations, the Concession stipulated that, at the expiration of twenty years from the date at which the whole line should have been opened to traffic, or at the end of each successive period of ten years, or on the expiration of the ninty-nine years for which the Concession was granted, the Government should have the right to acquire the line itself, with its accessories, as well as the rolling stock, at a valuation to be made by experts; but in the event of the Government making use of either of these rights, it bound itself to give notice of its intention one year beforehand, and if no such notice were given before the expiration of the ninety-nine years of the duration of the Concession, then the Concession should be held to be renewed for a further period of thirty years.

The stipulations of the Concession for the railway

from Samarang to Willem I and Djokdjokarta with reference to the pecuniary aid to be afforded by the State in respect of that line, were as follows:—

Pecuniary obligations undertaken by the State.

The cost of the line with everything appertaining to it was estimated at an average of 80,000 florins (about 6,667*l.* sterling) per kilom.; and the Government engaged to guarantee to the Company, during a period of thirty-three years from the date of the opening of the line to traffic, annual interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. on an aggregate amount of capital not exceeding in any case 14,000,000 florins (about 1,666,670*l.*) whatever the actual cost of the line and the rolling stock, &c., might eventually prove to be.

The amount of annual interest for which the Government thus became responsible to the Company was 630,000 florins (52,500*l.* sterling), but with the proviso that the obligation to pay this sum should only remain in force so long, after the opening of the whole line, as the net annual profit derived from it should fall short of that sum, and that under any circumstances the annual payment to be made by the State in respect of this guarantee should be limited to the amount necessary to make up the difference between the net revenue realised year by year and the said sum of 630,000 florins; and the Government undertook in the meantime to pay to the Company, during the period of eight years allowed by the Concession for the construction of the line, interest at 4½ per cent. per annum *pro rata* on the sums expended in its construction.

Mode of reimbursement to the State of its pecuniary advances.

The agreement with respect to the reimbursement by the Company of all payments which might be made to it by the State under the stipulations above described, was as follows:—

That the aggregate of those payments should constitute a debt owing by the Company to the State; that on this debt the Company should not be liable to the payment of any interest, but should refund the principal to the State on the following system:—

By a yearly payment at the rate of 1 per cent on all profit exceeding 5 per cent. per annum on the general profit and loss account of the Company, such payment to commence as soon as any excess of profit above 5 per cent. should be realised. And so soon as the net profit should amount to a sum more than sufficient to

yield 7 per cent. per annum to the shareholders, then the Company should pay to the State year by year two-thirds of the net sum realised over and above that amount of profit, until the entire debt should be thereby liquidated.

Ultimate benefits secured to the State.

As a return for the pecuniary advantages granted by the State under the foregoing general arrangement, the Company engaged to assign to the State annually (commencing from the date at which the liquidation of the debt to the State should have been completed), and until the termination of the Concession, when, as already explained, it was stipulated that the railway and everything appertaining to it should become the absolute property of the State, 25 per cent of all net profit realised over and above the sum necessary for the payment of 5 per cent. per annum to the shareholders, the remaining 75 per cent. of such excess of net profit being distributable in the following manner. :—

50 per cent. to the shareholders;

15 per cent. to the reserve fund of the Company;

10 per cent. to the Directors of the Company.

Finally, the Company undertook to submit a general statement of its accounts at the end of each year to the Minister for the Colonies for his approval.

The foregoing were the original conditions agreed upon between the Government and the Company relative to pecuniary aid in respect of the construction of the Samarang railway; but some of these conditions, and more especially that relating to the annual amount of interest to be guaranteed by the State, were subsequently modified in a sense favourable to the Company, as will be explained hereafter.

Original amount of capital of Company.

On the formation of the Company in 1863, when it only contemplated the construction of one line of railway, namely, that from Samarang to Willem I and Djokdjokarta, the amount of capital was fixed at 14,000,000 florins, of which they proposed to raise, in the first instance, 10,000,000 by the creation of 10,000 shares of 1,000 florins each, and subsequenlly to provide the remaining 4,000,000 florins by an issue of further shares or by means of obligations.

A history of the series of difficulties in regard to money affairs, which the Company had to contend with during the first few years of its existence, and of the

complicated financial operations and negotiations which followed thereupon, would be here out of place and altogether beside the object of this Report, which is no other than that of giving an outline of the circumstances and conditions under which the construction of railways in the Dutch East Indies was undertaken, the extent to which they have been constructed, and the amount general character, and pecuniary results of the traffic now carried on upon them.

Suffice it therefore to say, as regards the negotiations and financial operations of the Company above referred to, that their ultimate result, as attained towards the middle of the year 1871, was the creation of a state of affairs which may be summed up as follows:—

Subsequent increase of State guarantee of interest

The State had agreed to an increase of the capital sum of 14,000,000 fl., on which it had originally guaranteed to the Company an annual interest of 4½ per cent., to 17,000,000 fl., thus raising the amount of annual interest for the payment of which the State became responsible to the Company to 765,000 fl., the duration of this guarantee having at the same time been extended to the year 1906; and the State had further prolonged the period within which the Company had originally bound itself to complete the Samarang Railway, by rather more than two years, namely, from July 1871 to the end of September 1873.

On the other hand, the Company had undertaken, in addition to its obligations respecting the construction of the Samarang-Djokdjokarta Line, to construct the railway from Batavia to Buitenzorg and to complete it within four years from July 1868.

Increase of capital of Company.

In order to carry out these obligations, the Company had of necessity to increase its capital, and this it had succeeded in doing with the assistance of the addition made to the amount of guaranteed interest conceded by the State, and by means of a renunciation on the part of the shareholders of so much of their claim on that guarantee in respect of their shares as might be necessary to ensure the payment in full of the interest on the debentures which it was proposed to issue in order to raise the additional amount of capital required, the payment of that interest thus forming a first charge on the amount guaranteed by the State.

In this manner the general capital of the Company,

for the purposes of the two lines of railway above mentioned, was raised to 23,230,200 fl. (1,935,850*l.*), consisting of the original share capital of 10,000,000 fl., and of 13,230,200 fl. raised by means of three separate debenture loans, two of which (to a total amount of about 11,000,000 fl.) paying interest at the rate of 4½ per cent., and one (of about 2,250,000 fl.) at 5 per cent. per annum.

With the aid of this addition to their capital the Company have been enabled successfully to complete the construction of their two lines of railway.

Having thus described the general conditions under which the construction of the two railways of the Dutch East Indies was undertaken, I will proceed, in the first place, to give some account of the technical features of those lines, and of the cost at which they were constructed, and I will thus describe the nature and extent of the traffic, as well as the financial results of that traffic, as set forth in the latest returns made public, namely, those for the year 1873.

Railway from Samarang to Willem I and Djokdjokarta.

Description of Samarang line.

The last portion of this line, namely, the section from Bringin to Willem I on the branch line, was completed towards the end of December, 1872, and was opened for traffic on the 21st of May, 1873. Previously to that date the length of the line open to traffic was 187 kilom.; subsequently to that date the line was open along its entire length of 202·1 kilom.

The station at Samarang is the head station of this railway, and it comprises within its walls the offices for the general administration and direction of the whole line. Attached to it are the chief magazines and workshops of the Company, and it was in these workshops that the greater part of the railway carriages and waggons, as well as many of the iron bridges and other iron or wooden constructions required for the line, were manufactured. This station is connected by a line of rails with the canal which communicates with the Harbour of Samarang, and by a second line with the Government warehouses.

The first section of the main line from Samarang to Kedoeng-Djatie is 34·2 kilom. in length, being only 2·6 kilom. longer than the distance in a direct line

between these two spots. The highest point reached on this section of the line is one between the stations of Tangoeng and Kedoeng-Djatie. It is 63 mètres above the mean water level of Samarang, 61·5 mètres above the level of the line itself at the Samarang Station, and 26 mètres above the level of Kedoeng-Djatie. On this section there are three intermediate stations or stopping places between the two chief stations of Samarang and Kedoeng-Djatie.

The second section, from Kedoeng-Djatie to Solo, is 73·9 kilom. in length, or 6·4 kilom. more than the direct distance from the one place to the other. Between Kedoeng-Djatie and Gedangan, a distance of 7·6 kilom., this section is carried to an elevation of 49 mètres above the level of the first-named place; from Gedangan it descends again to about the same extent to Lawang, distant 36·2 kilom., and then rises again as far as Salem 8·9 kilom., where it attains an elevation of 114 mètres above Kedoeng-Djatie; thence it descends continuously to Solo, which lies 56 mètres above Kedoeng-Djatie and 93 mètres above Samarang. The deepest cuttings on this second section of the line are those at Gedangan and Lawang, which have a depth of 15 and 19 mètres respectively, and the highest embankments are two near Lawang, of 16 and 18 mètres in height.

The number of stations or stopping places on this section is nine.

The third section of the line, from Solo to Djokdjokarta, has a length of 57·6 kilom., being 2 kilom. more than the distance in a direct line between those two places. The greatest elevation on this section is reached at a spot between the stations of Tjepper and Klatten, about 25 kilom. from Solo, where it attains to 63 mètres above the level of the last-named place, 43 mètres above the level of Djokdjokarta and 5 mètres above the highest point on the second section. There are eight bridges on the third section, namely, one iron bridge 50 mètres long, three iron bridges 30 mètres long, three iron bridges 20 mètres long, one stone bridge 14 mètres long, and seven stations or stopping places.

The fourth section of the line consists of the branch from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I, 36·4 kilom. in length, the distance in a direct line between these two places

being only 28 kilom. This is the portion of the whole railway which, owing to the nature of the ground to be traversed, and the high level to be attained, offered the greatest difficulties. The highest spot on this section, one between the stations of Bringin and Toenlang, about 24 kilom. distant from the Kedoeng-Djatie Junction Station, is no less than 448 mètres above the level of that station, but only 10 mètres above the level of the terminus of the line at Willem I. Between the Kedoeng-Djatie Junction and Willem I there are four stations or stopping places.

The distances between the stations or stopping places on this, as well as on the three other sections of the whole line, vary considerably, the shortest being only 2·8 kilom., the longest 14 kilom. The average distance is, however, about 7 kilom.

The entire distance by the railway from Samarang to Willem I is 70·6 kilom., whilst the distance in a direct line is only about 37 or 38 kilom., this great difference being caused by the wide curve taken by the line in order to reach Kedoeng-Djatie and avoid the mountainous and almost uninhabited district, which is traversed by the direct road between Samarang and Willem I.

Except as regards the stations and other buildings, this railway has been constructed after the pattern of the State railways in the Netherlands. The line is a single one throughout, though the breadth of the land acquired for its construction is sufficient for laying down a double line. The rails used for the main line are of the weight of 37 kilog. to the mètre of length, whilst those used for the branch line, which runs through a more mountainous district, and has steeper gradients, are of the weight of 42 kilog. per mètre. The sleepers are almost exclusively of "Djatie" or teak wood. The stations and other buildings on the line are light and plain in their construction, in accordance with the requirements of the climate.

The quantity of earth and other soil removed in the construction of the whole line was about 3,600,000 cubic mètres, more than the half of which was, in respect of the branch line, from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I, although that section represents only a sixth part of the whole length of the line.

Engineers and workmen employed in construction of line.

The engineers and assistant engineers, under whose direction this railway was constructed, were all natives of the Netherlands, or Netherlanders educated in Java; but the men employed in the work were almost exclusively native Javanese. An attempt to introduce Chinese labour did not answer, and was the cause of much expense to the Company.

Javanese labourers.

The Javanese labourers were all volunteer workmen, no forced labour having been employed. Their number varied very greatly according to the season and other circumstances, but the largest number ever employed at one time was between 8,000 and 9,000. They were almost exclusively of the class of Coolies, or field labourers, very many of whom became, in time, extremely good steady workmen, and some of them expert handicraftsmen. When the works were first commenced great difficulty was experienced in obtaining competent workmen, and the irregular manner in which the Coolies attended caused much delay and annoyance; but these difficulties disappeared by degrees.

Time employed in construction of line.

The first sod of the railway was cut at Samarang on the 27th of June, 1864. On the 10th of August, 1867, the first 25 kilom. of the first section were opened to traffic, and the whole of that section on the 19th of July, 1868.

The construction of the second section was begun in February 1866, and was completed early in the year 1870. On the 10th of February of the latter year it was opened to traffic.

The third section was begun in June 1868, and opened to traffic on the 10th of June, 1872.

The construction of the fourth section (the branch line from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I) occupied very nearly nine years, having been begun in 1864 and only finally completed and opened to traffic in the spring of 1873. This long delay was not, however, caused entirely by the material difficulties to be overcome, but arose to a great extent from other circumstances, not the least of which was a deficiency of available funds to carry on the works without interruption.

Cost of line.

The sum total expended up to the 1st of January, 1873, in the construction of this railway, inclusive of the cost of negotiating the several loans raised by the Company, was about 19,000,000 fl. (1,583,330*l.*), of

which about 14,200,000 fl. were expended in respect of the main line (from Samarang to Djokdjokarta), and about 4,800,000 fl. in respect of the branch line (from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I). And this expenditure may be classed under three different heads as follows :—

Main Line.

	Florins.
For the line itself and everything belonging to it..	11,800,000
Rolling stock	1,100,000
Cost of raising money	1,300,000
Total	14,200,000

Branch Line.

	Florins.
For the line itself	4,100,000
Rolling stock	300,000
Cost of raising money	400,000
Total	4,800,000

Subsequently to the above-mentioned date (January 1873) a sum of 200,000 florins was expended for additional rolling stock for the main line, and 180,000 florins for completing the last portion of the branch line, the total outlay in respect of the main line being thus raised to 14,400,000 florins, and that for the branch line to 4,980,000 florins—together, 19,380,000 florins.

These totals represent an expenditure in respect of the main line at the rate of 86,900 florins (7,241*l.*) per kilom., and in respect of the branch line, at the rate of 138,800 florins (11,500*l.*) per kilom. The average cost per kilom. of the whole railway (main line and branch line) was therefore 96,100 florins (8,008*l.*), whereof 79,600 florins (6,642*l.*) for the line itself, 8,000 florins (666*l.*) for rolling stock, and 8,400 florins (700*l.*) or 9 per cent., for the expenses of raising the necessary loans.

Batavia Railway.

Railway from Batavia to Buitenzorg.

Time employed in construction.

The Concession for this line was granted, as already stated, in 1864, and the plans were presented to the local Government at Batavia, and approved by them, in the course of the following year. But it was not until the 15th of October, 1869, and after the concession had been made over to the Samarang Railway Company, that its construction was actually commenced, the first

sod having been cut on that day by the Governor-General. Its progress was, however, greatly delayed by the difficulties experienced in obtaining possession of some portions of the land over which the line was to pass, the result having been that it was only on the 15th of September, 1871, that a first section of the line, 9 kilom. in length, could be opened to traffic. But the whole line was completed towards the end of 1872 and was opened to traffic on the 31st of January, 1873.

Description of line.

The length of the main line from the station at Batavia to the terminus at Buitenzorg is 55·1 kilom. There are, besides, two short branches, namely, one having a length of 2·2 kilom., from a spot on the line near Batavia to the so-called "Kleine Boom" on the Harbour Canal; and another, 1·1 kilom. in length, from the main line near Meester Cornelis (11·2 kilom. from the Batavia station) to the station at that place. The total length of the main line and its branches is, therefore, 58·4 kilom.

The main station at Batavia is situated in the centre of the town on a canal, in which sea-going lighters ("Zee Praauws") can load or discharge their cargoes; and it is connected with the Harbour Canal by the branch line to the "Kleine Boom," already mentioned. In the so-called upper town of Batavia there are two stopping places, one at Noordwyk, near the palace of the Governor-General, 4·5 kilom. from the main station, and another 1·7 kilom. further on at Koningsplein. At a distance of 5·7 kilom. from the last named spot lies the station of Meester Cornelis, an outlying suburb of Batavia; this is the last place, towards the interior, at which Europeans reside, and consequently the service of the so-called omnibus-trains, consisting of carriages of the three different classes, is confined to the portion of the line lying between Batavia and this station.

The general depôt for materials for the line, the magazines, and the workshops, are at Meester Cornelis.

Between Meester Cornelis and Buitenzorg there are seven stopping places, and the station of Buitenzorg forms the inland terminus of the railway. The course of the line, after crossing the River Tyliwong, at a short distance from the main station at Batavia, runs in its whole extent as far as Buitenzorg along the left bank of that river.

The distance by the high road between Batavia and Buitenzorg is 58·5 kilom., or 3·4 kilom. greater than that by the railway.

The line rises almost continuously from Batavia to its terminus at Buitenzorg, the steepest gradients on its five several sections being as follows:—1 in 250, 1 in 200, 1 in 150, 1 in 100, and 1 in 80.

The railway consists of a single line throughout, the gauge being 1·67 mètre, or 3½ English feet, and the rails are of the weight of 25 kilog. to the running mètre.

Cost of line.

The sum originally set aside for the construction of this line was 1,000,000 of florins, being at the rate of 68,500 florins (5,708*l.*) per kilom.

The amount actually expended up to the 1st of January, 1873, was about 3,200,000 florins, or at the rate of only 54,500 florins per kilom. To that sum must, however, be added expenditure incurred subsequently to the above-mentioned date, for railway material and rolling stock, estimated to represent about 3,700 florins per kilom. This would bring the total cost of the line to about 3,400,000 florins, which is at the average rate of 58,200 florins per kilom.

This expenditure per kilom. is classed as follows:—

	Florins.
For the line itself	45,100
Rolling stock	7,200
Cost of raising capital	5,900
Total per kilomètre	58,200

Equal to 4,850*l.* sterling.

Aggregate cost of both lines of railway.

Thus the total cost, inclusive of stations, rolling stock, &c., of the 202·1 kilom. represented by the line from Samarang to Djokdjokarta and its branch to Willem I, being 19,380,000 florins, and that of the 58·4 kilom. represented by the line from Batavia to Buitenzorg, being 3,400,000 florins, it follows that the cost to the Company of the two lines, having together an aggregate length of 260·5 kilom. was 22,780,000 florins (1,898,333*l.*), being at the rate, as nearly as possible, of 87,446 florins per kilom., equal to about 11,691*l.* per English mile. But it must be borne in mind that in these calculations is included the cost of raising the required capital, which represents nearly 10 per cent. of the total outlay, so that in point of fact the actual

cost of the two lines of railway, with everything belonging to them, was about 10 per cent. less than the above-mentioned sum.

Traffic on the Samarang, Willem I, and Djokdjokarta line during 1873. Traffic on Samarang line.

The rolling stock on this line consisted, at the end of the year 1873 of the following:—

Locomotive engines employed on the main line	12
Ditto on the branch line	4
Service locomotives	3
Total locomotive engines	19
Mixed passenger carriages of the 1st and 2nd class (for the main line)	12
Ditto, ditto (for the branch line)	2
Ditto of the 2nd class (for the main line)	3
Ditto of the 3rd class (for the main line)	22
Ditto, ditto (for the branch line)	5
Luggage vans (for the main line)	9
Ditto (for the branch line)	2
Total carriages and vans	55
Horse and cattle trucks	8
Covered goods-waggons	61
Uncovered ditto	35
Trucks for carrying firewood	10
Ditto, ditto timber	2
Open trucks	108
Ballast waggons	10
Total waggons and trucks	234

The entire distance run by the nineteen locomotives during the year 1873 was 459,954 kilom., of which,

With—	Kilom.
Ordinary passenger trains	307,420
Special trains	1,469
Assistant trains	1,905
Goods trains	9,899
Total with trains	320,693
Service and ballast trains, &c.	139,261
Total	459,954

The quantity of coals consumed in the course of the year was 3,519 tons, the cost of which was 26 fl. 75 c. Consumption of fuel.

(2*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*) per ton. The consumption was at the rate of 7·1 kilog. of coal for every kilom. run by the locomotives.

The total cost for firing was at the rate of $\frac{242}{1000}$ florins (a small fraction less than 5*d.* sterling) per kilom.

The aggregate distance run by the carriages was as follows:—

	Kilom.
Mixed and second class carriages	338,708
Third class carriages	689,292
Luggage vans	595,425
Total	1,623,425

	Kilom.
Trucks and waggons.	1,848,288
Ballast and service waggons	306,594
Total	2,154,882

Of the seventeen engine-drivers employed thirteen were natives.

Three native Javanese were run over by trains in the course of the year, of whom two were killed, whilst the other lost a foot; and one European workman was run over and killed, owing to his own carelessness, at the station at Samarang.

Passenger traffic.

The number of passenger-tickets sold during the year was as follows:—

1st class	5,394	= ·9	per cent.
2nd „	27,639	4·8	„
3rd „	400,556	69·4	„
4th „	132,144	24·9	„
Total	565,733	100	„

besides 9,401 soldiers, and 2,022 prisoners or persons in custody, making a total of 577,156 passengers of all classes.

The so-called fourth-class passengers are such as are conveyed from one station to the next following station at half fare by third-class carriages, but only in so far as there may be spare room in the third-class carriages already attached to the train. As the conveyance of these fourth-class passengers involves no additional outlay the system has been adopted with the view of facilitating short journeys without loss to the Company.

The amount received for conveyance of passengers was,— Receipts from passenger traffic.

	Florins.		
1st class	28,665	= ·7	per cent.
2nd „	80,131	19·3	„
3rd „	293,063	70·6	„
4th „	13,204	3·1	„
Military	9,986	..	„
Prisoners	2,415	..	„
Supplementary tickets	4,139	..	„
Total	431,593	100	„

being equal to 2,191 florins per kilom. of railway open to traffic against 1,902 florins per kilom. in 1872.

The quantity of goods conveyed during the year 1873 was 88,771 tons, of which 83,559 were conveyed for account of private individuals, and 5,212 for account of the railway itself. Goods traffic.

Of the 88,771 tons above mentioned, 41,721 tons were sent in the direction from Samarang inland, and 47,050 tons from the interior towards Samarang, being an increase of 17,817 tons and 5,527 tons respectively, as compared with the quantities conveyed in 1872.

The goods sent inland consisted chiefly of the following:—

	Tons.
Manufactured goods	1,582
Rice	6,063
Padie	300
Salt fish	1,546
Salt	3,552
Machinery	1,446
Iron	1,119
Wood	3,856
Atap (palm leaves for thatching)	1,433
Bamboo	1,189
Firewood	4,810
Woodwork	717
Coals	955
Liquors	694
Earthenware	275
Furniture	631
Provisions	186
Flour	106
Tea	132
Tiles	392
Lime	388
Manure	441
Chemicals	259
Petroleum	191

And the principal goods sent downwards towards Samarang were—

	Tons.
Sugar	17,568
Coffee	6,670
Indigo	599
Tobacco	596
Rice	313
Firewood	9,744
Bamboo	1,886
Timber	3,294
Lime	1,028
Gravel	953
Hides	343
Fruit	136
Oil	135

The sum total received for freight on the 83,559 tons of goods carried for private account was 1,006,034 fl. (83,836*l.*), being at an average rate of 12 fl. 4 c. per ton.

Gross receipts and traffic expenditure.

The following is a summary of the gross receipts and traffic expenditure for the year in question.—

Receipts.

	Florins.
Passengers and luggage	433,246
Goods, cattle, &c.	1,046,311
Miscellaneous	95,453
Total	1,575,010

Expenditure.

	Florins.
General administration	109,465
Maintenance of the line and buildings	259,356
Firing, repairs, &c., to rolling stock	266,344
Salaries, wages, &c.	113,086
Total	748,251

Thus the traffic expenditure represented about 47½ per cent. of the gross receipts, and the net revenue on the working of the year was 826,759 fl., or 68,897*l.*

	Florins.
For the previous year the receipts amounted to ..	1,225,083
The traffic expenditure to	689,483
Leaving a net revenue of	535,600

The traffic expenditure for that year, therefore, amounted to rather more than 56¼ per cent. of the gross receipts, or nearly 9 per cent. more than in 1873.

The least productive portion of this railway is the branch line from Kedoeng-Djatie to Willem I. During the year 1873 the gross receipts from this branch amounted, on an average, to only 4,119 fl. 12 c. per kilom.; thus, assuming the working expenditure on this section at no higher a rate than the average working expenditure on the whole line (though it is actually much higher) namely, 3,798 fl. 24 c., the gross receipts would only have exceeded the working expenditure by 320 fl. 88 c. per kilom. It may therefore be safely assumed that, for the year 1873, the working expenditure of the branch line amounted to at least 80 per cent. of the gross receipts derived from it.

Traffic on the Batavia and Buitenzorg Railway.

Traffic on Batavia Railway.

At the close of the year 1873 the rolling stock on this line was composed as follows :—

5 locomotive engines and tenders of 18 tons each.
3 „ „ 11 „

8 engines (all manufactured by Messrs. Beyer, Peacock, and Co., of Manchester).

1 saloon carriage for the use of the Governor-General.
7 composite 1st and 2nd class carriages.
5 Ditto of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class.
10 3rd class carriages.
3 goods waggons, available as 3rd class carriages.
4 luggage vans.

30 carriages of all kinds, which comprised—
72 1st class places.
237 2nd „
825 3rd „

5 cattle trucks.
21 closed goods waggons.
2 trucks for timber.
43 uncovered goods waggons.
8 ballast waggons.

85 waggons of all kinds, capable of carrying an aggregate weight of 600 tons.

Each of the 18-ton locomotives ran, on an average, 33,000 kilom., and each of the 11-ton locomotives 23,000 kilom. in the course of the year in question.

The aggregate distance run by the trains was 140,750 kilom., divided as follows :—

	Kilom.
1,340 mixed trains	78,812
4,900 omnibus trains	59,356
114 special trains	2,582

The quantity of coal consumed during the year was 843 tons, being at the rate of 5·13 kilog. per train kilom., and the average cost of the coal was 29 fl. 33 c. (2*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*) per ton.

Of the six engine-drivers employed on this line, one was an European and five were natives. There was, besides, one European engaged in learning the business of an engine-driver.

Passenger traffic.

The total number of passengers conveyed was as follows :—

1st class	14,674	= 2·8	per cent.
2nd „	91,756	18·0	„
3rd „	384,842	75·8	„
Military	16,247	3·4	„
Prisoners	9	..	„
Total	507,528	100	„

And the sum total received for the conveyance of the foregoing was :—

	Florins.		
1st class passengers	21,956	= 8·8	per cent.
2nd „	63,567	25·5	„
3rd „	161,679	65·0	„
Military	1,579	0·7	„
Prisoners	7	..	„
Supplementary tickets	521	..	„
Total	249,309	100	„

Being at the rate of 4,565 fl. per kilom. of railway.

Goods traffic.

The aggregate quantity of merchandize carried during the year was :—

	Tons.
By trains going from the interior towards Batavia ..	8,215
By trains going in the opposite direction	4,416
Total	12,631

In addition to 72,805 tons of ballast, coal, stone, &c., conveyed for the service of the line itself.

The amount received for the conveyance of the 12,631 tons of merchandize was 70,307 fl., making an average of 5 fl. 57 c. per ton ; and the conveyance of the

72,805 tons of materials for the use of the line is calculated as representing a sum of 34,441 fl.

The railway carried, in addition to the foregoing, 1,171 horses, 315 carriages, and 213 head of cattle.

The 8,215 tons of merchants' goods carried in the direction of Batavia consisted chiefly of the following :—

	Tons.
Coffee	346
Tea	698
Sugar	51
Rice	5,051
Padie	94
Penang nuts	243
Timber	214
Hides	198
Dedak (bran from rice)	199
Fruit	46
Tobacco	25
Roots	25
Vegetables	25
Tiles	196
Mats	18

And the 4,416 tons of goods carried inland were chiefly :—

	Tons.
Manufactured goods	418
Furniture	353
Rice	265
Provisions	116
Salt fish	289
Coals	803
Lime	503
Tiles	403
Liquors	75
Tea	72
Fresh fish	58
Machinery	40
Lead	75
Wood	80
Sacking	86
Iron	39

The gross revenue and the traffic expenditure for 1873 are returned as follows :— Revenue and working expenses in 1873.

REVENUE.

From—	Florins.
Passengers and luggage	250,615
Goods, horses, &c.	115,878
Miscellaneous sources	13,054
Total gross revenue	379,547

EXPENDITURE.

	Florins.
General Administration	36,690
Maintenance of the line and buildings, &c. ..	37,080
Engine drivers' and stokers' wages, firing, and maintenance of rolling stock, &c.	57,721
All other salaries, wages, &c.	42,759
Total expenditure	174,250

The net revenue on the year's working was thus 205,297 fl., and the ratio of working expenses to gross receipts as nearly as possible 46 per cent.

Summary of traffic and pecuniary results of working of both lines for 1873.

The following is a summary of the combined traffic and of the revenue and expenditure on both the Samarang-Djokdjokarta and the Batavia and Buitenzorg lines, as well as of the accounts showing the financial results of the working for the year 1873, the latter being, in fact, the profit and loss accounts of the Company for that year.

TRAFFIC AND GROSS RECEIPTS.

	Number or Weight.	Receipts.
		Florins.
Passengers .. .. .. No.	1,084,684	680,902
Passenger luggage .. .. Kilog.	114,274	2,959
Goods .. .. .. „	174,351,857	1,145,115
Parcels .. .. .. No.	32,647	
Carriages .. .. .. „	522	6,683
Horses .. .. .. „	2,567	8,417
Cattle .. .. .. „	1,515	1,974
Miscellaneous receipts	..	108,507
Total receipts ..	..	1,954,557

WORKING EXPENDITURE.

	Florins.
Samarang line	748,251
Batavia „	174,250
	922,501
Total receipts	1,954,557
Net revenue	1,032,056

Results of the working of both lines for the year above mentioned.

Receipts.

	Florins.
Balance of cash from accounts of previous year ..	376,484
Net revenue on the working of the year (as above stated)	1,032,056
Payment by the State, as guaranteed interest on capital	765,000
Total	2,173,540

Payments.

	Florins.
Contributions to reserve, rolling stock, renewal, and sinking funds (Samarang line)	334,001
Ditto to reserve fund of Batavia line	36,873
Interest and sinking fund of debenture capital ..	690,444
Dividend on share capital	250,000
Payment to the State in part reimbursement of advances, as guaranteed interest on capital ..	552,757
Balance transferred to credit of account for 1874 ..	309,465
Total	2,173,540

At the close of the year 1873 the balance of the non-interest-bearing debt still due by the Company to the State on account of advances for guaranteed interest on capital amounted to 3,706,720 fl. (308,892*l.*)

Project for construction of further railways in Netherlands India for account of the State.

Before closing this Report on Dutch-Indian railways it may be well to state that the Netherlands Government has now before the States-General a Bill authorizing the construction of a network of railways by the State in the Island of Java.

The first line which it is proposed, according to that Bill, to construct is one from the seaport of Sourabaya to the inland town of Passoerocan (in the centre of the principal coffee-producing district of the island) and thence to Malang, the total length of this proposed line being 115 kilom.

According to an estimate prepared by a civil engineer in the employment of the Department of Public Works at Batavia, it is calculated that the cost of the line in question will be about 10,000,000 fl., and the time required for its construction about four years.

The Bill further authorizes the Government to cause surveys to be made in other districts of Java, beginning

with that which lies between Batavia and the plain of Badong, with a view to the ultimate construction of a complete system of railway communication extending from Batavia, in the eastern part of Java, to Sourabaya, in the west, with branches connecting that line with the the more important towns on the southern and eastern coasts of the island.

(Signed) H. P. FENTON.

The Hague, January 1875.

Sweden.

Reports by Mr. Gould on the present Condition of the British Shipping Trade with Sweden; and on the Extent and Value of the Coal Deposits in Scania, and the Production of Iron in Sweden.

Report on the present Condition of the British Shipping Trade in Sweden.

Importance of the British trade with Sweden.

The importance of the commercial relations between Great Britain and Sweden is conclusively demonstrated by the following figures, extracted from the official Returns of the "Commerce Collegium," or Swedish Board of Trade, for 1872, the latest which have yet been published.

Value in 1872 of the Swedish foreign trade, and rapid increase thereof.

In the course of ten years, 1853 to 1872 inclusive, the declared value of the foreign trade of Sweden had risen 120 per cent., and reached the large sum of 416,111,000 kronor, = 23,121,166*l.* The Returns for the latter year (1872) show an increase over the preceding one (1871) of no less than 85,979,000 kronor, or 4,776,621*l.*, = 26 per cent. Judging from the rapid growth of the revenue derived from the Customs dues, there is good ground to suppose that within the last two years (1873 and 1874) the same or nearly the same ratio of increase has been maintained, and that the present annual value of the Swedish foreign trade is more probably over than under 30,000,000*l.*

Value in 1872 of the trade between the two countries.

In 1872 about 44 per cent. of the whole foreign trade of Sweden was carried on directly with Great Britain, the aggregate value of both the imports (77,098,255 kronor, = 4,283,236*l.*) and of the exports

(105,324,516 kronor, = 5,857,362*l.*) having been as much as 182,422,771 kronor, = 10,184,598*l.* As far as can be ascertained, the relative importance of the commercial transactions between the two countries continues on the same scale up to the present date.

Number of vessels employed in the Swedish foreign trade.

In the course of that year (1872) 21,647 vessels, measuring 3,226,221 tons, were engaged in the foreign trade of Sweden, and of these 6,878, of 1,714,362 tons, in the direct trade with Great Britain.

Proportion of British to other vessels engaged in trade with Great Britain.

However, it appears from the Returns previously mentioned that only 19⅓ per cent. of the vessels and 25⅔ per cent. of the tonnage employed in the trade between the two countries were British, the number of British vessels being but 1,330 of 440,576 tons. 3,016 vessels arrived from British ports, 912 in ballast and 2,104 with cargoes; of the latter 1,307 were Swedish or Norwegian, 476 British, and 321 of other nationalities. 4,796 vessels cleared for British ports, 22 in ballast and 4,774 with cargoes; of the latter 2,588 were Swedish or Norwegian, 1,332 of other nationalities, and only 854 British.

Proportion of British to other vessels trading with northern Swedish ports.

If the trade between Great Britain and the Swedish ports north of Gefle is considered separately, the number of British vessels is found to have been under 12 per cent. of the total number thus employed, 290 out of 2,421.

Number of British vessels has not increased in same proportion as those of other nations.

Finally, while the total amount of the tonnage engaged in the trade between the two countries in the five years, from 1868 to 1872 inclusive, showed an increase of close upon 40 per cent., the addition to the amount of British tonnage similarly employed during that period scarcely reached 33 per cent.

Causes which have led to unfavourable position of British shipping trade.

From the preceding statements it is seen that whereas, on the one hand, there is a large and rapidly increasing British trade with Sweden, on the other, the amount of British shipping engaged in it is not only small but comparatively on the decrease. The causes which would seem to have contributed to bring about the above unsatisfactory result are manifold; those arising from the unfavourable conditions under which British shipping has to compete in Sweden with the shipping of other nations, especially with that of Sweden and Norway, are more particularly adverted to.

As regards the causes coming under the first cate-

gory, the marked inferiority, as a class, of British shipmasters in comparison with those against whom they are pitted, deserve to be prominently noticed. Besides the great advantages which the Swedish and Norwegian ship-masters naturally possess in dealing with their own countrymen and in being thoroughly acquainted with the navigation of their own seas, they are generally in point of education, professional knowledge, manners and steadiness, superior to by far the greater number of British shipmasters. Under one form or another the same remark has been repeatedly made; but nowhere does its accuracy strike even casual observer more forcibly than in Sweden. As a consequence shippers both here and in Great Britain employ the former in preference to the latter, although their terms may be identical. To such an extent have the former gained the confidence of shippers in general throughout the world, that of late years in spite of the enormous additions to their mercantile fleets, they are by slow degrees discarding the wood and coal trade between the two countries for more remunerative employment elsewhere. Should this really prove to be the case, as it is asserted on good authority, it would materially detract from whatever importance might be attached to the numerical (though not proportional) increase already noticed as having taken place in the amount of British shipping engaged in the Swedish trade.

British shipmasters inferior, as a class, to those of other countries.

Swedish and Norwegian vessels preferred to British.

One of the most serious difficulties British shipmasters had to contend against was that their competitors, owing to their vessels being so much more cheaply constructed and worked, could afford, it is said, to underbid them to the extent of over 30 per cent. Now this drawback has almost entirely disappeared, and the rates of freight are about equal, in consequence of the recent great rise in the cost both of shipbuilding materials and labour, and perhaps also of a greater demand for Swedish and Norwegian vessels.

Swedish and Norwegian rates of freight equal to British.

The prejudice on the part of Swedish shippers against employing British shipmasters has been partially overcome, but still exists, and can be easily accounted for, especially as regards the wood trade. The latter as a rule are totally ignorant of the language of the country, unaccustomed to this peculiar branch of trade, and frequently refuse to conform to local usages.

Prejudice in Sweden against employing British vessels, and reasons for it.

Want of knowledge of the language.

Ignorance of the language is not of so much importance in trading with Stockholm and the southern ports as it is with the northern ports whence nearly all the wood is shipped, for in the former, English is very generally spoken, whereas in the latter but few are acquainted with it. In this respect Swedish and Norwegian shipmasters have a decided advantage, being quite as much at home in one country as in the other, since they are compelled to prove their proficiency in English before being granted their certificates as masters. Then, as regards the peculiar conditions under which the shipment of wood has to be effected, quick dispatch is of the utmost value for two reasons: first, the shortness of the shipping season coupled with the scarcity of available labour; secondly, the great risk in so changeable a climate of sawn wood being drenched and thereby deteriorated. To load with the least possible loss of time requires both very careful management on the part of the person superintending the shipment and practice on that of the crew. The plan is to have the vessel's hold accurately measured so as to be able to calculate beforehand with mathematical precision, where and in what quantities each different description of wood can be most conveniently stowed. Then the wood is brought to the ship's side in barges and, according to its measurement and as it is required, each description is at once passed into the space previously allotted to it. By the adoption of this exceedingly simple plan, a very considerable saving in time is effected. It stands to reason that it must be far preferable to the one of allowing the wood to be first put on board just as any ordinary cargo would be, and then to have it stowed away anyhow as circumstances admit. Unfortunately many British masters are not cognizant of the great advantages of the method above described, and others, not having among their crews any one able to carry it out, refuse to go to the expense of engaging a native for that special purpose; but even then the unskilfulness of their crews at work of this kind would still tell against them, if they had not had some previous practice.

Dilatoriness in shipping wood.

Method employed by Swedish and Norwegian masters when shipping wood.

Finally, on board Swedish and Norwegian vessels, as well as those of other nationalities, the work of loading is carried on almost incessantly until completed. The necessity of this is obvious. The further north, the

Work of loading carried on more energetically on board Swedish and

shorter the shipping season and the greater the scarcity of labour. Whilst in the most northern ports the season averages between four and five months, already at Stockholm it extends over eight or nine months. Besides the further north vessels have to proceed, the greater become the difficulties and dangers of the navigation, and, therefore, it is all the more necessary to make the best possible use of the brief interval of fine weather, when neither ice, nor darkness, nor storms are to be feared.

Norwegian vessels than in British vessels.

For these reasons the number of hours daily during which the work of loading vessels is carried on, varies greatly in different ports and depends also upon many other contingencies. The usual practice, however, seems to be to press it on as long as daylight lasts. At midsummer in these northern latitudes this is of course practically impossible, owing to the almost total absence of darkness; but then Swedish and Norwegian crews somehow manage to do with astonishing little sleep at that season of the year. British masters seldom attempt to get much more than an ordinary day's work out of their crews, and, if they do, generally fail in the attempt. Many Swedish and Norwegian vessels in the course of the shipping season succeed in making three voyages to and from England. It is doubtful whether British vessels are often able to do as much, for the loss of a very few days may, and frequently does, make all the difference. Yet within the last two or three years such has been the demand for shipping, that scarcely any British vessels have had to return from the more northern ports without cargoes.

Claims for demurrage frequently raised by British shipmasters.

Under these circumstances it is a matter of constant occurence that the major part of the running days, allowed in the charter-parties for receiving and discharging cargo, are taken up merely in loading in the case of British vessels, although the Swedish shippers may not be the least in fault. However the masters, if they find themselves unable after their arrival in Great Britain to discharge their cargoes within the specified term, almost in every instance claim demurrage. In order to check this abuse, which gives rise to much unpleasant correspondence between the shippers and freighters, and even sometimes leads to costly litigation, it would perhaps be as well to take into consideration a suggestion offered by

Alteration in wording of charter-parties proposed as a means to prevent such claims being unduly raised

a gentleman of considerable experience in such matters. It is simply that, instead of as at present lumping together the whole of the running days in the charter-parties of vessels freighted to load wood, it should always be distinctly and separately specified how many days will be allowed for taking in cargo and how many more for discharging it. Thus masters, if unable to complete loading within the prescribed term, either through want of diligence on their part or through remissness on that of the shippers, or owing to some unavoidable cause or other, could be compelled to have the case settled on the spot.

Complaint of Swedish wood exporters against British importers, and suggestion in regard to it.

Although not coming exactly within the scope of this Report, there is likewise a fruitful source of complaint on the part of the Swedish wood merchants against certain British buyers, which deserves not to be passed over without some notice, as the removal of any cause of dispute or distrust can only be attended with mutual advantages.

The practice which usually obtains in the wood trade is, that the timber is sold for delivery at the ship's side in a good and sound condition, the sellers, therefore, not being responsible for any after-consequences that may occur. Sawn wood, however, not unfrequently, on arriving at the port of discharge, is found to be in a deteriorated or apparently deteriorated condition, owing in most instances to the effects of leakage, the vessels employed in this trade being generally so old as to be scarcely seaworthy.

The buyers thereupon, it is alleged, take advantage of this circumstance to threaten an action for breach of contract, and usually succeed in obtaining a reduction of the price originally agreed upon, the Swedish sellers finding it too difficult and too costly to resist their demands. How far this complaint in particular is justified, cannot now be determined, but, however painful the admission may be, there is no denying the fact that in almost all branches of trade the complaints of alleged sharp practice on the part of the mercantile classes in Great Britain are becoming louder and more general, whereas formerly they were held to be exceptionally reliable in all their dealings. In the case in point it certainly seems strange that some means should not have been devised to prevent fraud being

imputed to either side, especially in the more important ports, where it would apparently be so easy to find competent persons, enjoying the confidence of both parties, to hold surveys on the wood, and to deliver properly authenticated certificates, attesting its condition at the time of delivery, and to be accepted as decisive evidence in all disputes on that particular subject.

Want of discipline on board British vessel attributed chiefly to evil results of system of advance notes.

A matter of far wider import, since it affects the whole of the British shipping trade in the Baltic, is the want of efficient means of control masters possess over their crews. The men, owing to the system of advance notes, are, as a rule, hopelessly in debt to the ship. They may become ever so unruly and idle, the master has no really effective remedy in his hands. Stopping their wages, or hiring substitutes at their expense, is out of the question, if, as is generally the case, they have already been debited to the extent of the wages they are likely to earn during the voyage for which they have been shipped. Sending them to prison is equally ineffectual, for, besides the trouble, loss of time, and expense entailed on the master by such a measure, idleness in prison is preferred by many to work on board.

The evil results of the system of advance notes, as regards seamen shipped for short voyages, have been fully and ably exposed by several of Her Majesty's Consuls.

The only additional remark which need, therefore, be made is, that the conclusions they have arrived at are, from all that can be gathered on the subject, amply borne out by facts as far as Sweden and Norway are concerned.

Frequent recurrence of casualties among British shipping, attributed chiefly to carelessness.

Lastly, the too frequent recurrence of wrecks and casualties among the British shipping in these seas, happily somewhat on the decrease of late, is, in a large measure, to be ascribed to professional ignorance and want of care on the part of the masters. During the shipping season able and, above all, careful navigators, have no special cause to dread the narrow seas, shoal waters, and the intricacies of the navigation along the coasts of Sweden. These dangers have as far as possible been guarded against by excellent charts, numerous pilot stations, where experienced pilots may at all times be obtained, numberless harbours and sheltered anchorages to make for in case of need, and lighthouses

at some of the most exposed points. Besides the whole coast line and the adjacent islands are studded with differently shaped and coloured beacons easily recognized; the more intricate and dangerous channels being carefully marked out with stakes, placed at very short intervals from each other.

Stockholm, January 5, 1875.

Report on the Extent and Value of the Coal Deposits in Scania, and the Production of Iron in Sweden.

Importance to Sweden of obtaining a cheap and abundant supply of coal in order to increase her production of iron and steel.

The importance to Sweden of being able to obtain a cheap and abundant supply of coal for the manufacture of iron cannot be overrated. It is at the same time a question of the greatest interest to the world in general, to England in particular. On it depends mainly to what extent Sweden, so rich in minerals, will be in a position to compete commercially with other countries, and consequently to what degree of material prosperity she may hereafter attain. Her supply of minerals is practically unlimited; but the means hitherto at her disposal of profitably reducing them to a form available for exportation, or of converting them into manufactured articles are extremely limited. By the aid of charcoal she can produce iron and steel, superior in quality to those of almost any other country; but she can only produce them in limited quantities and at a comparatively high prices. Owing to the rapidly increasing scarcity of charcoal the present rate of production can hardly be exceeded, whilst it may very possibly decrease. This scarcity of charcoal is due to a great variety of causes, which must in the natural course of events make themselves more and more felt, and cannot be effectually counteracted. Although in some parts of Sweden 5 acres (4 "tunnland,") yet on an average no less than 10 acres (8 "tunnland") of wood-land are required to furnish annually the necessary amount of charcoal to produce a ton of metal, in southern and central Sweden it has already become so expensive that in spite of the heavy freights to be incurred ore is occasionally shipped from thence to the most northern parts of the Gulf of Bothnia for the purpose of being there smelted down for exportation. The difference in the price of charcoal is as much as 5 to 17, or nearly three and a half times

greater in the centre of the country than in the extreme north, where, owing to the want of furnaces, no use is often made of the refuse wood in the saw mills.

Causes which have hitherto prevented the use of coal for smelting purposes.

The only way therefore to increase the production of iron and steel would be to employ coal or coke for smelting purposes. Yet this has so far not been attempted, at least on an extended scale, although in a few exceptional instances coke is mixed with charcoal. First, because up to a very few years back three essential conditions were wanting, enterprise, capital, and the means of communication. Secondly, because the high price Swedish iron and steel command in the foreign markets was rightly attributed as much to the superiority of the Swedish ores as to the use of charcoal in smelting them. Thirdly, because it was and still is feared that, even if the superiority in quality could be maintained, the production in larger quantities would soon bring down the exceptionally high prices hitherto obtained for these Swedish products. However, the commercial prosperity which has, as it were, suddenly overtaken the country, has had the effect of promoting a spirit of enterprize. This has in its turn caused capital to flow freely into it, and thus it is now being rapidly covered with a perfect net-work of railways. By means of these lines the principal mining districts have been or are being brought into communication either directly with the sea, or with the great water highways leading to it.

Quantity of ore extracted made to depend on the amount of charcoal to be obtained.

Up to the present day the quantity of iron ore extracted from the mines has been in the majority of cases restricted to the amount which could be smelted with the charcoal obtainable in the immediate neighbourhood. The cost and difficulties of transport were such as to prevent the export of the ore itself in any very considerable quantities. In the last twelve months (1874), though 16⅕ per cent. in excess of the proceeding year, the quantity exported amounted to only 25,020 tons. Besides, for the reasons previously enumerated, many of the old and wealthier proprietors of mines were and still are opposed to such a course.

Reasons why change in the present system has now become unavoidable.

Under the altered conditions of the country this state of things cannot subsist much longer. Returns must under some shape or other be obtained for the large amount of capital recently sunk in mines, railways and other similar undertakings. That cannot be done

on the present system of a limited production of superior but high priced iron and steel, on which moreover the profits must decrease as to the cost of charcoal increases. Between 1869 and 1873 pig iron rose from 3*l.* 10*s.* 8*d* to 8*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per ton or 149 per cent. During that period the rise in the price of charcoal was even greater. The price of the former has since fallen 40 to 50 per cent. but, as far as can be ascertained, the price of the latter is as high as, if not higher, than ever.

Requirements of the country rapidly increasing, especially as regards cheap iron and steel.

At the same time the requirements of the country itself are daily increasing, and there is likewise a growing demand for the cheaper and inferior qualities of both iron and steel. They are better adapted for many uses than the others, or at any other rate they answer equally well, whilst costing from 25 to 30 per cent. less. As they cannot now be produced in Sweden, they have to be imported from abroad. The total production of iron and steel rose in ten years, from 1863 to 1872, from 336,510 to 563,137 tons, or $67\frac{3}{10}$ per cent., and there is every reason to believe that in the two last years, 1873 and 1874, a further large increase has taken place. The exports during the same period (1863 to 1872) rose from 113,161 to 259,933 tons or $129\frac{7}{10}$ per cent. However, if the five years, 1870 to 1874 are taken, they show a falling off of no less than $26\frac{1}{5}$ per cent., = 43,081 tons. The imports rose from 1863 to 1872 from 16,694 to 34,287 tons, or $105\frac{3}{10}$ per cent. The value of the machinery railway, plant, &c., exported has largely increased since 1863, when it was only 1,697*l.* to 91,722*l.* in 1874. Still it only amounts to less than one-tenth of the importations under the same head, which in the returns for 1874 stand for 944,444*l.* against 132,914*l.* in 1863. It is also to be observed that whereas the increase in the former within the last five years (1870-74) is equal to $94\frac{8}{10}$ per cent. the increase in the latter during those five years amounted to $468\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. These figures leave no doubt that, notwithstanding the great progress lately made in the manufacture of iron and steel, the requirements of the country in this respect are greatly in excess of the supply, and increasing at a still more rapid ratio.

See Table No. 1 annexed to Report.

Different ways in which the questions at

These important questions must, therefore, soon be solved, and there seem to be but three different ways in which this can be accomplished: either the Swedish

ores will have to be exported in largely increased quantities; or coal will have to be imported to a far greater extent than heretofore; or, finally, means will have to be found to smelt the ores with such coal as can be obtained in the country itself. issue can be solved.

The first of these alternatives would obviously be the least advantageous as far as Sweden is concerned. She would thereby relinquish the profits to be made out of the reduction of her ores; she would throw away the natural advantages she possesses in the shape of abundant water power and low wages; and she would continue to remain precluded from competing with other countries in the production of cheap iron. 1. By an increased exportation of ore.

The adoption of the second alternative is daily becoming more feasible as well as more necessary. In the course of the last twelve months alone (1874), not only was considerable progress made by the Swedish Government towards the completions of the trunk lines, but fifteen private branch lines were thrown open to traffic, several of which are mineral lines. Thus, at the end of last year there were close upon 1,700 miles of railways in a country which twenty years before had none. Besides these there remained a great number under construction, and concessions for seventeen new lines were applied for and granted during the above twelve months. 2. By an increased importation of coal to be used for smelting purposes. Increased facilities.

Consequently, the only point about which there can be any difference of opinion is, whether the margin of profit between an increased importation of coal or coke for smelting purposes and an increased exportation of ore would be sufficiently wide to cover the large additional outlay of capital required in the former instance. On this subject the opinion of competent judges appears to be that in the case of mines favourably situated for the purpose, the manufacture of iron and steel, with coal brought to the spot, would yield an additional profit of from 10 to 15 per cent. on the whole of the capital required for such an undertaking as compared to the profit at present realized by simply exporting the ore. Reasons why an increased importation of coal should prove more profitable than an increased exportation of ore.

It is not too much to assume that generally speaking, Swedish ores are from one-third to one-half richer in iron than British ores, besides being superior to them in several other respects, though not to the full Superiority of Swedish over British ores, and description of the former.

extent of the difference in the metals produced in the two countries, which, as before stated, is in a large measure to be ascribed to the different kinds of fuel employed in the process of smelting. The former contain on an average about 50 per cent. of iron, seldom under 40 per cent., frequently between 50 and 60 per cent., as, for instance, in the Dannemora district amongst others, and exceptionally even as much as 65 to 70 per cent., as at Gellivare, 72½ of iron being the highest percentage Swedish ores can possibly yield. With the exception of the brown hæmatite ores found in the lakes of the Province of Småland, they are mostly magnetic and specular ores met with in gneiss, hornblendic rocks, micaceous slates, and primitive calcareous rocks, and contain almost all, more or less, quartz. They are generally very free from phosphorus and sulphur, though much more so from the former than the latter, particular care being taken to eliminate it by roasting the ores. The average proportion of phosphorus is to vary from ·01 to ·05 per cent., but at Dannemora it is as low as ·003 per cent., whilst, exceptionally, it is found to exceed 1 per cent. These ores contain on an average between 10 and 12 per cent. of chalk, so that seldom above 10 to 25 per cent. more has to be added when smelting them, a circumstance which naturally causes a considerable saving in the expense of reducing them. In some cases the necessary admixture of chalk does not amount to above 5 per cent. In others, by no means rare, the ores can be fused by themselves without any addition of chalk. Again, in some others the ores possess the peculiar property of facilitating by their own composition the reduction of other ores when mixed with them in certain given proportions. Ores, such as those last mentioned, though they do not usually contain a high percentage of iron, are so much sought after, that they command the best prices in the market, some having recently been sold at about 28*s.* the ton, or 50 per cent. over the average price. Finally, certain Swedish ores are specially adapted for conversion into steel owing to the presence of manganese in varying quantities, the hardening properties of which are so well known.

Greater cheapness with which iron

Under these circumstances, it follows that, compared with the poorer and inferior British ores, it would

require 50 per cent. less of the Swedish ores to yield an equal quantity and a better quality of metal with a proportionately smaller consumption of the same fuel. Then, in calculating the cost of production, it would also be necessary to bear in mind the greater cheapness of labour and the greater abundance of water power in Sweden than in Great Britain. The rate of wages of the workmen employed at the blast furnaces, &c., does not exceed on an average 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per day. Against these advantages must be set the cost of importing the necessary coal. The price of coal of fair quality, free on board in England, ranges between 12*s.* and 16*s.* per ton; that of ore of average richness, also free on board in Sweden, may be considered to be from 16*s.* to 18*s.* 8*d.* per ton. Whatever difference may at present exist between the prices of these two minerals is likely to be considerably diminished before long owing to the greater facilities of transport gradually causing new lines to be opened up, more work to be done in the old ones, and improved methods of working them to be adopted. The present annual output (over 800,000 tons in 1873) might easily be increased to an almost incalculable amount.

could be produced from Swedish ores.

In the Dannemora mines, for instance, but 23 pits out of about 80 were worked last year. In each of these pits only small gangs of five to eight men worked for a few hours daily, going down at eight in the morning, and coming up again at four in the evening. Two of these pits, which have been worked for hundreds of years, are huge chasms, hewn in the rock to a depth of 500 feet, about 150 in breadth, and 300 to 400 in length at the base, where hundreds of miners might be employed, instead of the dozen or so now to be seen. This renowned ore crops up to within thirty feet of the surface, and has been worked down in one pit to a depth of 750 feet without being exhausted; consequently the thickness of the seam is still unknown. It is stated to be 600 feet in width, and 7,000 feet in length. The output in 1873 amounted to 32,380 tons, according to the official returns just published, and it would probably be within the mark to say it might easily be made to yield at least ten times that amount annually; within the last three or four months it has been brought into railway connection with the two parts of Stockholm and Gefle. It is, therefore, to be hoped the present wealthy

Account of the Dannemora mines, and the way in which they are worked.

proprietors may be induced to avail themselves of these means to increase the output of their celebrated mines. What has been stated with regard to Dannemora, applies with equal force to the majority of the Swedish iron-mines, which are very far from being worked to their full extent; the mechanical appliances in use being moreover, of a very primitive description, and driven by water power. There are 686 mines actually being worked, besides 248 others that have only just been opened up, or that are merely worked to the extent required by law, to prevent the proprietary rights of the owners from falling into abeyance.

Account of the mines in the north of Sweden.

By far the most valuable mines, both as to the quantity and the quality of the ores, are to be found in the extreme north of Sweden, where in consequence of the severity of the climate, the scarcity of population, and the absence of even common roads, all attempts to work them with profit have so far proved abortive. However, last year, in the small Island of Hindersön to the north-east of the town of Luleå, a rich iron-mine was opened up, and as many as 150 miners from the central provinces set to work upon it. As far as can be ascertained this is the only mine really being worked up to the present moment.

Scientific Commission about to be sent to report on some of these mines, and on the practicability of opening up this part of the country.

This next summer the Swedish Government will send a commission of scientific men to report upon the value and extent of the enormous deposits of iron and copper known to be lying in the district about Jukkasjäroi, which is on the upper course of the Torneo River, between fifty and sixty English miles, in a north-westerly direction from Gellivare. The names of the principal mines, which are described as being quite as valuable as the one at Gellivare, are Thurravaara, Luosavaara, Altavaara, Kirunavaara, iron; and Suappavaara, iron and copper; as well as Kilnavaara and Sjangeli, copper alone, the latter being close to the Norwegian Territory. The members of this commission will further endeavour to ascertain how far it would be practicable to open up communication between the above-mentioned district and the Aften Fjord, on the Norwegian coast. The whole distance between Gellivare and this navigable Fjord, viâ Yukkusjärvi, is roughly estimated at about 150 English miles, or under 100 miles from the latter place. This part of the country, which is mountainous,

has never been accurately surveyed; but all those who penetrated through it to Norway seem to agree in reporting that by following a line parallel either with the chain of lakes, Torne, Träsk, or with the Ranta Yärvi, and striking the frontier at Sjangeli, a railway might be constructed at a comparatively small cost. It has likewise been estimated, on what certainly appear rather vague calculations, that with a free grant from the Government of the necessary land and the wood required for sleepers, stations, &c., this line might be made for less than 3,500*l.* per English mile, or 400,000 Rix dollars per Swedish mile. There can be no doubt that without a railway, the whole of these mines are practically of no value whatever, and at the same time that a line to the Norwegian coast would offer far greater advantages than any of those projected to the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia. The ports on the Swedish side are closed by ice during fully seven months of the year, whereas those on the Norwegian side are open at all times. Besides, both as regards the difficulties and dangers of navigation, as well as the shorter distance separating them from England and other great manufacturing countries, the superior claims of the Norwegian ports are incontestable. The distance from Gellivare to Luleå is about 120 English miles, and the nature of the country presents no serious obstacles to the construction of a railway. Several projects have been started for connecting the above mine with some point on the Swedish coast; but with one single exception, and that a complete failure, no attempt has yet been made to carry them through. It is earnestly to be hoped something will soon be done to turn to account the vast stores of both iron and copper so long lying unproductive at a comparatively short distance from two seas, whether it be by means of railroads, of the canalization of the rivers, or by the invention of traction engines able to draw loads over the snow.

Description of this part of the country; its climate and resources.

The average snow-fall is between 3 and 4 feet. The average temperature during fully one-half of the year is between 5° above and 4° below zero, Fahrenheit, the thermometer occasionally sinking below 40° minus. For five to five months and a half there is neither snow nor ice, and at times the heat is excessive. The actual population is so scanty, it would hardly be of any avail

in working the mines on a large scale. Immigrants would in such a case have to be attracted by high wages, and, moreover, to be supplied for a time at least with almost all the necessaries of life. The country at present produces next to nothing, although fair crops of potatoes, rye, and barley could be raised without much difficulty. The supply of fodder for cattle is abundant, and could, by draining some of the marshes, be easily increased. As it is, a considerable quantity of butter is exported from this Province (Norrbotten). The following statistics, collected on the spot, may not be without interest:—

Average wages per day, 3*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.* 4*d.*; per pound —fresh meat (rarely, if ever, for public sale) 3*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* 10*d.*; dried reindeer meat (supply also rather deficient) 4½*d.* to 6¾*d.*; bread (only a course, hard kind of biscuit made of rye), 2*d*; and butter 6¾*d.* to 1*s.* In the immediate neighbourhood of Gellivare the woods are too poor to furnish charcoal in sufficient quanties for smelting purposes. Between it and the Norwegian coast the country is said to be still more destitute of wood. However, if means of communication could once be established and kept permanently open, all or most of these drawbacks would gradually vanish. An abundant supply of labour could be procured from Finland and other places where wages are low. Fish in any quantities could be obtained from the Norwegian coast; besides, the country itself would soon be able to furnish a larger amount of meat and dairy produce were there a market for them. Charcoal, for smelting purposes, could also to a considerable extent be drawn from the large forests near the coasts of the Gulf of Bothnia.

Account of Gellivare and its ores.

The "Malmberg" (mountain of ore) at Gellivare fully deserves its world-wide reputation. This almost solid mass of wonderfully rich ore rises over 300 feet above the level of the surroundng country. It is about 3⅓ English miles in length, by about 1⅔ in breadth. It is easy of access on nearly every side, and with but little labour roads, or, better still, tramways might be made to every part of it. The ore, which crops up to the surface in many places, is often exposed to view, or merely hidden by a thin coating of moss. It varies very much in appearance, but some of it is granulated and crumbles into dust even when rubbed between the hands. It is

not everywhere of equal purity and is sometimes found to contain a good deal of phosphorus. It could be quarried with the greatest ease from the sides of the Malmberg at its base, as has already been done on a small scale. The Malmberg is divided into 600 allotments, of which 213 belong to an English Company trading under the name of the "New Gellivare Company, Limited." They are stated to comprise the most valuable part of the Malmberg, and, although purchased for a trifling sum, have hitherto proved but a constant source of trouble and expense. The former English Geltivare Company, which became bankrupt after the crisis of 1866, received a subsidy from the Swedish Government to assist it in constructing a railway, seventy miles long, from the mines to Storbachen on the Luleå river and two short canals, the first at Ederfors, and the second at Hedensfors, required to render that river navigable. All the preliminary surveys for the railway were completed and a portion of the works on the two canals, but the whole scheme has since been abandoned, and no further attempt made to establish means of communication in any other direction. The subject continues to attract a considerable amount of public attention in Sweden, and has given rise to discussions in the Diet, so that probably the day is not far off when the matter will be seriously taken in hand by the Swedish Government, without whose effectual assistance it is hardly possible for such an undertaking to be carried through successfully. In the meanwhile the present Gellivare Company, not being bound by the engagements entered into by the former Company, wisely abstains from attempting to do more than is legally required in order to maintain its proprietary rights over the mines. In 1873 the amount of ore officially reported to have been sent down to the Company's blast furnaces on the Luleå river was 125 tons. The cost of conveyance per ton was, there is reason to believe, over 1*l.*, reindeer being employed for the purpose. As each reindeer can only draw a load of about 300 Swedish pounds across such a difficult country, no less than eight must have been required for the conveyance of each ton of ore, the distance to be travelled over to and from the nearest available point on the Luleå overland being no less than 187 miles.

Question of freights considered in its relation to the production of coal-made iron in Sweden.

The question of freights, which at first sight seems so formidable, loses much of its importance if, as there is good reason to assume, the quantity of English coal requisite to reduce Swedish ores does not materially differ from the quantity of the latter to be thus reduced, the estimated average proportion in England being about 3 tons of coal to produce from between 3 and 4 tons of British ores 1 ton of pig or cast iron. Some ores are, of course, more refractory than others, just as some coals have less heating power than others; but speaking in general terms, the quantity of coal employed in fusing ores is determined not so much by the amount of metal to be obtained from the ores as by the bulk of the ores themselves. Should this calculation prove even approximately correct, Sweden will soon be in a position to realize for her own benefit such profits as may have been hitherto derived from smelting Swedish or other foreign ores in England, plus such as may further accrue to her from being able to dispose of cheaper labour and more abundant water-power. Moreover, the greater the amount of labour to be expended on the manufacture of the various kinds of metal, the greater will become the percentage of profit falling to her share.

Probable relative average cost of producing iron in England and in Sweden.

Before dismissing this part of the subject, which is one of so much interest to both countries alike, it would perhaps be as well to endeavour to ascertain as far as possible what might be the relative average cost of producing a ton of pig or cast iron in either of the two countries respectively. Judging from such data as can be readily obtained, it may be taken for granted that from 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons of British ores are generally required to furnish a ton of metal, and that the cost of this quantity of ore can scarcely be under 20*s.* to 25*s.* An equal quantity of coal cannot cost less than from 27*s.* to 36*s.* Allowing 10 per cent. additional on the two sums added together, for interest on capital and other expenses, the cost of producing a ton of pig or cast iron in England would come to between about 52*s.* and 67*s.* The quotations for the lowest priced iron in England for the current quarter range from 60*s.* to 70*s.* per ton. In Sweden not above two tons of ore would on an average be required to produce a ton of metal, costing at the most 14*s.* to 15*s.* to the owners of the mines. The freights on coal per ton from the different parts of Eng-

land and Scotland are quoted as follows: to Gottenburg 7*s.* to 9*s.*; to Malmö 7*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.* 6*d.*; to Stockholm 8*s.* to 10*s.*; and to the ports in the Gulf of Bothnia, 1*s.* to 2*s.* more. Under ordinary circumstances the freights to the latter ports do not exceed those at Stockholm, because vessels usually have to proceed to some of these ports in ballast to obtain return cargoes of wood. Therefore the price of a ton of English coal imported into Sweden may on an average be taken to amount to between 20*s.* and 25*s.*, which would raise the cost of the two tons of coal requisite to smelt the quantity of ore previously mentioned to from 40*s.* to 50*s.*, adding likewise in this instance 10 per cent. for interest and other expenses, the cost of producing a ton of pig or cast iron in Sweden would be between about 60*s.* and 71*s.* Even at this estimate, in which neither the superiority of the metal nor the greater cheapness of labour have been considered, Swedish coal-made iron could successfully compete in Sweden itself against British iron, since the most inferior quality of the latter could not be inported according to ruling prices, at less than 70*s.* to 80*s.* per ton. As the price of iron in England is in a great measure dependent upon that of coal, any reduction in the cost of the latter would tell with equal force on the production of the former in Sweden, which would consequently become cheaper. The actual price of Swedish pig or cast iron, charcoal made, is now quoted at 4*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* or 84 crowns per ton for the inferior qualities. Under such circumstances it is but natural to expect that before long Sweden will seek to supply her increasing wants in respect to cheap iron by manufacturing it herself with coal or coke imported from Great Britain.

Importance to Sweden of being able to turn to account the coal found in Scania.

It is, however very doubtful whether Sweden will ever be able to compete with Great Britain in the production of cheap iron for export, unless, as suggested in the earlier portion of this Report, she succeeds in making use of the coal existing in Scania for smelting purposes. The most conflicting opinions as to the extent and value of the Scanian coal deposits prevail to this day even in Sweden itself. At the same time the subject is one of considerable future importance both for the iron and coal trades of England. Under these circumstances it was deemed advisable to visit some of the principal coal mines in Scania in order to test by

personal observation, as far as the want of special scientific attainments permitted, the accuracy of the information which has at different times appeared on the subject.

Extent of the coal-fields in Scania.

Traces of coal have been met with in various parts of the Province of Malmö from Ystad in the south-east to beyond Engelholm in the north-west, as shown by a map attached to the valuable work of Mr. Edward Erdmann on "Scania's Coal Formation," 1872. Since the publication of the work referred to fresh borings have been executed in several places, and it is stated they all tend to prove that the coal strata underlie a far greater extent of country than had been previously supposed. Unfortunately from the want of either sufficient capital or perseverance the borings have in general not been carried out as thoroughly as would have been desirable. The majority of them stop short at between 200 and 300 feet, rarely go down beyond 400, and but in a single instance as far as 800 feet. Thus it yet remains to be shown whether coal may not be struck at the lower depths. As far as has been ascertained the coal appears to lie at an average depth of from 100 to 250 or 300 feet. At one spot it has been found at a depth of 615·90 feet; but this is believed to be due merely to a dip in one of seams usually met with at a higher level. Up to the present moment there are no indications to encourage the hope that coal may be discovered below the strata already brought to light.

Position of the coal seams.

The seams lie for the most part in an horizontal position, but sometimes dip considerably. At Bjuf, for instance, a mine which has only just begun to be worked, the seam struck at 90 feeet below the surface is already being worked at a depth of 150 feet. The seams are also very frequently suddenly lost, owing to fractures (dykes) of greater or less extent, and much expense and labour are often incurred before they can be again found.

Thickness of the coal seams.

The coal-beds vary in thickness from a very few inches to at most 5 feet. In boring at a place called Raa many feet of coal were brought up; but further borings leave scarcely any doubt that on this occasion the bore must have accidently penetrated a seam edgeways. Even in the case of the thicker seams the quantity of coal they contain is greatly reduced by the intermediate layers of splint and coal slate, which

almost invariably intersect them. At Höganäs, for instance, the principal seam now being worked is 4·83 Swedish feet (the Swedish foot being equal to 0·9741 of an English foot), divided in the following manner :—

Coal, No. 3 (splint)	0·15
,, No. 1	0·60
,, No. 3 (splint)	0·25
,, slate	1·33
,, No. 2	0·20
,, slate	0·50
,, No. 2	0·25
,, slate	0 25
,, No. 2	0·30
,, slate	0·67
,, No. 2	0·33
	4·83

It is thus seen that the total quantity of coal, including the splint, is under 2 English feet in thickness. The difference in weight between the different qualities of coal is very great, the "Tanna"= 6 Swedish cubic feet, of No. 1, weighing 287 Swedish lbs. = about 269 English lbs.; of No. 2, 340 Swedish lbs. = 318 English lbs.; and of No. 3, 400 Swedish lbs. = 374 English lbs. Under this seam of coal, as is usually the case in Scania, there is a layer of fire-clay 5 Swedish feet thick. At Billesholm, in shaft No. 6, the seam is 2·80 Swedish feet in thickness, divided in the following manner :—

Coal, No. 1	0·25
Splint, of the poorer sort	0·40
Coal, No. 2	0·25
,, slate	0·70
,, No. 1	1·20
	2·80

In shaft No. 7—

Coal, No. 1	0·50
Bituminous slate	0·25
Splint	0·10
Coal, No. 1	1·10
Bituminous slate	0·25
Coal	0·20
Slate, hard	2·00
Coal	0·50
	4·90

At Bjuf the seam is from 18 to 30 English inches in thickness, averaging 22. At Raus and neighbourhood the existence of thicker seams appears to be proved by the result of borings; but, up to the present, the average thickness of coal found in the same seam throughout Scania can scarcely be estimated at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 English feet. It is as well to state here that many separate coal strata are found lying one below the other, the intermediate space being generally occupied by considerable layers of sandstone; but then in the majority of cases these coal seams or veins are so thin, it is very questionable whether it would pay to work them.

Description of coal found in Scania.

The Scanian coal is described as not belonging properly to the large coal formation, but to one of the sub-divisions of the jura formation (the so-called medial or brown jura), and is consequently of a more recent date than the coal existing in England and some other countries. In the Table appended to this Report, and marked No. 1, will be found the quantity of coal raised since 1862, and in the following one (No. 2) the scientific results of the analysis of no less than twenty-nine different samples of Scanian and Bornholm coals, carried out by Mr. Edward Erdmann himself in the laboratory of the Royal Swedish Geological Department. A number of English and other engineers have also at different times publicly expressed very favourable opinions respecting the useful qualities of this coal. It has been compared to English cannel coal, though somewhat drier and containing less sulphur. Some authorities in such matters assert that it is entirely free from sulphur, and there can be no doubt it contains unusally little, if any. It throws out a bright, clear flame, and emits hardly any smoke, consequently producing but little soot. It has also this advantage, that it forms no slag. On the other hand these good qualities are somewhat marred by its possessing less heating power than most English coals. It does not coke, except perhaps in some very exceptional instances, or when mixed with other coals. It leaves an enormous quantity of ash of a spongy nature, and of a light grey colour, whole flakes of it retaining the original shape of the lumps of coal. This ash is about equal in volume to the coal before being burnt, though not above 30 per cent. of its weight.

The coal is in general so brittle that it easily crumbles to pieces, and the greater part of it, unless very carefully handled, soon becomes reduced to dust. According to a competent judge, now employed in managing one of the best mines, it ought to be classified as a kind of light gas coal. However, before proceeding further it may be better to quote likewise the opinion of a Belgian mining engineer, Mr. Rem Marechal, on the subject, as published in a work entitled "The Coal Fields of Scania."

"The fuel of Scania has the aspect of pit-coal rather than of what is properly called brown (or wood) coal. It is of a more brilliant black than the magnificent lignite so justly renowned of Bohemia, does not swell or become soft during combustion, gives no cellular coal, and leaves light embers which preserve the form of the fragments; it contains not the slightest trace of sulphur.

"It possess a caloric power superior to that of the ordinary lignites without possessing to the same degree that of pit-coal; it approaches that kind of free burning uninflammable coal analogous to what is found in the northern limit of the basin of Liège.

"It contains volatile substances in sufficient quantity, possessing a light-giving power so great that at Höganäs the hectolitre = 3·33 English cubic feet of coal produces 900 cubic feet of gas of good quality. Since my return, I have received from Stockholm the results of experiments made with these coals in comparison with the best English coals, which fully corroborate those obtained at Höganäs.

"It is perfectly fit for heating the boilers of steam-engines, though burning faster than pit-coal. At Billesholm they consumed 3·5 kilog. per horse-power per hour to produce 1½ atmosphere of pressure in a production by tubes on the system of locomotive boilers.

"The Cornwall boilers adopted at Höganäs required 5 to 6 kilog.

"I have no doubt whatever it can serve for heating puddling furnaces, the reverberatories which are used for the reduction of lead and the roasting of ores, and it will give heat intense enough for zinc furnaces on the Liège system, especially if use is made of ores but slightly refractory."

Valuable clays found in Scavian coal-mines.

In addition to the coal, fire-iron, and other valuable clays are found in very large quantities in all the Scanian mines. At the newly-opened mine at Bjuf, a clay was shown which, in the opinion of a perfectly competent judge, was declared to be equal in quality to the best Stourbridge clay. As far back as 1827 an English engineer of the name of Bald expressed a highly favourable opinion on this clay, although he qualified it to the extent of considering it the best after that of Stourbridge. At Höganäs fully half the daily out-put of coal (about 120 tons) is used for the manufacture of fire-proof bricks and also pottery. Such is the demand for these bricks, which are made by hand, and are said to be equal in quality to the best medium English fire-proof bricks, that by the middle of next summer the actual number of kilns will have been trebled. The ordinary sized bricks produced at these works, where several hundred men find permanent employment, fetch on an average about 3*l.* 18*s.* per thousand. Iron clay, containing as much as 26 to 36 per cent. of iron, is also stated to exist in some of the pits. Experiments have proved that other clays are well situated for the production of mineral oils.

Cost and selling price of Scanian coal.

The average cost price of the Scanian coal may be taken to be about 5s. per ton all round. The average selling price at the pits' mouth naturally varies in different localities, as well as according to the quality of the coal, but it may be set down at about 13*s.* 4*d.* per ton for the best quality, 10*s.* 8*d.* for the second, and between 5 and 6*s.* for all other inferior sorts.

Conclusions arrived at respecting extent and value of the Scanian coal deposits.

The general results both of the inquiries made on the spot, and of all the information derived from other sources with respect to the value and extent of these coal deposits, may be summed up in a few brief remarks. The quantity of coal existing in Scania is ample to supply all the future possible wants of Sweden for a very great number of years to come. It is of a very useful kind, and has certain special qualities to recommend it, though it is incontestably inferior in most respects to the generality of English coals. Owing both to its bulk and friable nature, it is ill suited for export to any distance, but can be used with great advantage in a variety of ways. As a steam coal it has been employed for several years on the railways running through Scania,

and been very favourably reported upon, especially on account of its being so free from sulphur and not forming any slag. Compared with English coal there is a slight saving in cost, and it has also been ascertained that the fire grates last much longer than they did before this coal was brought into use. Its employment on board steamers does not appear to have answered equally well, and has been completely given up. As a gas coal it would be superior to most other descriptions of coal but for the fatal defect of not possessing sufficient bitumen to bind it together so as to produce coke. As a smithy coal it has proved peculiarly adapted for certain kinds of work, in which iron has to be thoroughly heated without the edges being burnt off, as it is slower in its action than most other coals. Its heating power when used in forges is roughly estimated to be between 30 and 40 per cent. less than that of ordinary English coal, in other words, 2 tons of English coal would go as far in this respect as 3 tons of Swedish coal. In a trial on board a Swedish gun-boat, best West Hartley coal and Billesholm coal No. 1, it was found that the heating power of the former was 31½ per cent. higher than that of the latter. As a house coal it has long been used in parts of Scania, and is said to do fairly well provided it is consumed in properly constructed fire-places, where the grates are sufficiently wide apart to admit of a strong draft and not to get chocked up by the ash. Finally, whether it is suited for the production of iron, there are as yet no means of judging. Trials are on the point of being made with it in England for the purpose of settling this question. Considering its freedom from sulphur, and the amount of gas it evolves, there is a strong presumption in favour of its proving well adapted for use in smelting some kinds of ore, at any rate, in specially constructed furnaces.

Neglected condition of the coal-mines, and suggestions for improving them.

The coal mines of Scania, which first began to be worked in the early part of the seventeenth century, have been sadly neglected, and even now are far from engaging that amount of attention which they deserve. Owing to defective management, want of capital and enterprize, many successive Companies have been ruined in attempting to work them. Yet there can scarcely be any doubt that, notwithstanding the thinness of the seams and the inferiority of the coal, with some additional expen-

diture and under proper management, they might be made greatly to contribute towards the industrial development of the country at large. These mines are gradually being brought into railway connection with the seaboard, but it seems very questionable whether they can ever prove successful in a financial point of view, unless by causing large industrial works of various kinds to be erected, means may be found to make use of the coal in the immediate vicinity of the mines, for, as previously shown, it is ill adapted for exportation.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Stockholm, February 8, 1875.

(Table No. 1.)—Coal and Iron Trades of Sweden, from 1863 to 1874.

	1850.	1858.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
	Tons.*	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Foreign coal imported	77,722	180,374	(?)	320,665	339,790	350,835	359,832	332,282	389,575
Swedish coal raised	..	..	30,006	29,841	28,093	33,294	34,365	35,033	43,809
Total	..	..	..	350,506	367,883	384,129	394,197	367,315	433,384
Iron ore raised	..	..	436,848	444,659	462,359	506,638	481,582	492,511	535,358
Iron ore exported	..	..	..	5,491	7,588	17,053	13,671	9,865	11,809
Iron ore smelted	..	..	..	439,168	454,771	489,585	467,911	482,646	523,549
Cast iron exported	..	..	..	11,008	18,434	16,289	15,272	23,565	20,740
Cast iron imported	..	..	..	6,784	4,949	4,919	3,942	4,087	4,823
Net export of cast iron . ..	..	..	..	4,224	13,485	11,370	11,330	19,478	15,927
Wrought and rolled iron exported . ..	..	..	..	98,217	102,041	97,430	124,829	154,448	137,931
Wrought and rolled iron imported . ..	..	..	..	9,814	19,019	24,027	8,626	4,120	5,211
Net export of wrought and rolled iron .	..	..	..	88,403	83,022	73,403	116,203	150,328	132,720
Steel exported	..	..	..	3,936	4,685	4,601	2,082	5,827	4,117
Steel imported	..	..	..	96	94	98	105	130	131
Net export of steel	..	..	..	3,840	4,591	4,503	1,977	5,697	3,986
Total exports of iron and steel	..	..	..	113,161	125,160	118,320	132,183	183,840	162,788
Total imports of iron and steel	..	..	..	16,694	24,062	29,044	12,673	8,337	10,165
				£	£	£	£	£	£
Value of machinery, &c., imported	..	..	..	132,914	105,830	159,469	146,964	102,079	72,911
Value of machinery, &c., exported	..	..	..	1,697	3,394	3,638	2,825	3,685	7,207

* The ton equal to 24 Swedish centners, or 48·6 Swedish cubic feet.

Coal and Iron Trades of Sweden, from 1863 to 1874—*continued.*

	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	Increase and Decrease per cent. 1863–72.	Increase and Decrease per cent. 1870–71.
	Tons.*	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Foreign coal imported	339,821	435,111	462,849	562,281	553,197	603,703	+ 88 2/10	+ 38 7/10
Swedish coal raised	46,148	36,092	40,999	37,865	not yet	published.	+ 26 1/10	..
Total	385,969	471,203	503,848	620,146	..	..	+ 71 2/10	..
Iron ore raised	586,160	617,988	649,432	717,940	..	..	+ 61	..
Iron ore exported	9,287	12,859	11,576	18,274	21,520	25,020	+ 232 7/10	+ 94 5/10
Iron ore smelted	576,873	605,129	637,856	699,666	..	..	..	..
Cast iron exported	21,266	40,188	41,063	80,785	56,387	40,625	+ 633 8/10	+ 1
Cast iron imported	4,649	5,154	7,314	9,059	..	..	+ 33 6/10	..
Net export of cast iron	16,617	35,034	33,749	71,726	..	..	+ 1,598	..
Wrought and rolled iron exported	158,589	164,057	175,781	173,785	127,384	116,637	+ 76 9/10	— 40 6/10
Wrought and rolled iron imported	9,797	9,478	16,048	24,995	..	..	+ 154 6/10	..
Net export of wrought and rolled iron	148,792	154,579	159,733	148,790	..	..	+ 68 3/10	..
Steel exported	4,930	3,214	5,240	5,363	3,712	7,116	+ 36 2/10	+ 121 4/10
Steel imported	188	168	303	233	..	..	+ 142 7/10	..
Net export of steel	4,742	3,046	4,937	5,130	..	..	+ 33 5/10	..
Total exports of iron and steel	184,785	207,459	222,084	259,933	187,483	164,378	+ 129 7/10	— 26 2/10
Total imports of iron and steel	14,634	14,800	23,665	34,287	..	..	+ 105 4/10	..
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Value of machinery, &c., imported	104,368	166,110	208,539	350,334	694,444	944,444	+ 163 5/10	+ 468 5/10
Value of machinery, &c., exported	21,126	47,068	22,089	46,319	66,666	91,722	+ 2,629 1/10	+ 94 2/10

* The ton equal to 24 Swedish centners, or 48·6 Swedish cubic feet.

(Table No. 2.)—RESULTS of Analysis of different sorts of Swedish Coals, made at the Laboratory of the Geological Department.

	Gases.	Coal.	Ashes.
Coal No. 8, Höganäs, soft, very loose, some of it resembling brown or wood coal ..	14·38	81·79	3·83
Coal No. 1, from shaft No. 6 at Billesholm (seam A)	26·81	72·31	0·88
Coal from (seam A) shaft Kristoffer at Billesholm	26·17	71·92	1·91
Coal (the best selected) from shaft Jean Molins, at Stabbarp	26·11	70·64	3·25
Ditto	26·34	69·92	3·74
Coal (the best selected) from shaft Kristian, to the north of Helsingborg	30·06	69·16	0·78
Coal from shaft Theodor, at Bosarp ..	29·56	65·93	4·51
Coal (without being chosen) from shaft Kristian, north of Helsingborg ..	21·28	65·74	12·98
Coal from Pålsjö, shaft No. 1, north of Helsingborg	26·14	64·96	8 90
Coal from Queen Louisa's adit at Bosarp .	31 57	64·86	3·57
Coal from Pålsjö, shaft No. 2, north of Helsingborg	32·19	64·43	3·38
Coal No. 1, from shaft Prince Charles, at Höganäs	32 87	64 15	2·98
Coal No. 8, from Höganäs (the edges hard and lustrous)	27·64	64·14	8·22
Coal from Steenkulranden, at Hasle, in Bornholm	32·94	60·83	6·23
Coal from Femalensranden, at Bagaa, in Bornholm	30·43	57·67	11·90
Coal No. 2, from shaft Prince Charles, at Höganäs	24·96	54·69	20·35
Coal from shaft Charles the Fifteenth, at Vallåkra	30·08	53·40	16·52
Coal from Smedsranden, at Hasle, in Bornholm	33·60	50 45	15·95
Coal taken from the lumps lying on the gravel at Kåseberga, south-east of Ystad	28·45	48·01	23·54
Coal No. 2, from shaft No. 6 at Billesholm (seam A)	22·66	41·96	35·38
Coal No. 3, from Queen Louisa's adit at Bosarp	20·69	41·59	37·72
Coal from Kurremölla in the Roddinge district	32·00	43·82	24·18
Ditto ditto (from another seam)	28·85	40·30	30·85
Coal No. 3, from shaft Prince Charles, at Höganäs	17·44	39·24	43·32
Coal No. 3 (splint) shaft No. 6, at Billesholm (seam A)	19·16	35·74	45·10
Brown pieces of coal, resembling lignite, from shaft Kristoffer, at Billesholm ..	27·78	32·74	39·43

	Gases	Coal.	Ashes.
Coal No. 3, from Höganäs (the edges soft)	14·46	32·21	53·33
Coal-slate, from Pålsjö, shaft No. 1, north of Helsingborg	5·58	11·98	82·44
Aluminous chistus from Akarp's mill in the Konga district	2·97	11·01	86·02
Dark grey slate, from shaft No. 6, at Billesholm (seam A)	14·86	9·43	75·71
Coal-slate, from shaft Kristian, north of Helsingborg	6·63	8·53	84·84

Appendix.

Regulations for the execution of the German Law relative to Trade Marks.

(In continuation of Papers in Part I.)

Communicated to the Earl of Derby by Count Münster, March 3, 1875.

(Translation.)

Notification of the Regulations for the execution of the Law for the Protection of Trade Marks, of November 30, 1874.

The following regulations for the execution of the Law for the protection of trade-marks have been issued by the Federal Council :—

1. The Commercial Register is to have a special division for the entry of goods-marks, which is to have the title of "Mark Register. The Mark Register is to have five columns, which are intended :—

(1.) For the name of the firm which makes the announcement, the place of its principal establishment, and the place of its entry in the commercial register ;

(2.) For the day and hour of the announcement ;

(3.) For the kind of goods for which the mark is intended ;

(4.) For the representation of the mark announced ;

(5.) For remarks.

For the rest, the regulations issued respecting the Commercial Register are applicable to the Mark Register.

2. The announcement of the marks is to be made in the forms prescribed for announcements in the Commercial Register generally.

The representation of the mark to be attached to the announcement is to be a copy not more than 3 centim. square at most, on durable paper, and, if required, for for the sake of perspicuity, there is to be a statement of the manner of applying the mark. Four copies of the representation are to be delivered. The firm which makes the announcement is at liberty to add the block for printing the marks.

3. The entry of each separate mark is to be made according to the series under consecutive numbers.

When the entry is made a copy of the representation of the mark is to be fixed in the column intended for the representation.

A mark is to be cancelled by writing the word "cancelled" in the column for remarks. The cancel of a mark may be notified also according to the regulations issued for the commercial register.

4. If announcement is made, in accordance with section 5, No. 2, of the Law, of a change of firm and the retention of the mark that has been entered for it, the new denomination of the firm is to be entered in the column for firms in place of the former one.

5. If the further retention of a mark that has been entered is announced according to section 5, No. 3, of the Law, before the expiration of the legal period of protection, then the day and hour of the new announcement is to be entered in the proper column instead of the former announcement.

6. Every note in the Mark Register is to have at the end the date of the authority by which it is made, and the place where it is to be found, as well as the signature of the official who makes the entry, if that be required by the regulations of the Commercial Register.

7. The firm which makes the announcement is to be informed of the completion of an entry, as well as of its refusal, and in the latter case the reasons for the refusal are to be stated.

8. The notification of the entries and the cancels is to be made, so far as is prescribed by law, by the Court which keeps the Mark Register. When entries have been made two copies of the representation delivered are

immediately to be forwarded to the office of the "German Imperial Advertiser," or, if the block for the mark has been sent in, the latter is to be forwarded to the office to have an impression of the mark taken.

A voucher is to be kept, showing that the notification has been made.

9. The notification is to contain the running number of the entry, the name of the firm, and the place of its principal establishment, day and hour of the announcement, the kind of goods for which the mark is intended, the representation of the mark, and the signature of the Court.

It is to be in the following form :—

The mark ♀ is entered under No. 10 to the firm F. Haupt, of Leipzig, after announcement on the 1st of July, 1875, at 9 o'clock in the morning, for ethereal oils and soaps.

Royal Commission Court at Leipzig.

10. The notification of a cancel is to contain the running number of the entry, the name of the firm, and the place of its principal establishment, the number of the "German Imperial Advertiser" which contains the notification of the entry, and if the cancel is only for particular kinds of goods, those goods are to be mentioned; finally, it is to have the signature of the Court.

It is to be in the following form :—

The mark No. 10 entered to the firm F. Haupt, of Leipzig, is cancelled as a mark for soaps, as appears by notification in No. 150 of the "German Imperial Advertiser" of 1875.

Royal Commercial Court at Leipzig.

Berlin, 8th February, 1875.

For the Imperial Chancellor,

(Signed) DELBRUCK.

According to section 6 of the Law for the protection of trade-marks of 30th November, 1874, the first entry and the cancel of a goods-mark are to be notified in the "German Imperial Advertiser." The charges for these notifications are :—

(1.) For the notification of an entry, exclusive of the expense for cutting the mark block, 6 marks.

(2.) For the notification of a cancel, 2 marks.

Nothing is to be charged for return postage, vouchers, package, and return of casts, &c.

Berlin, 8th February, 1875.

At the Imperial Chancery Office.

(Signed) DELBRUCK.

COMMERCIAL. No. 10 (1875).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES

OF

EMBASSY AND LEGATION

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, &c.,

OF THE

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.

PART III.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1875.

LONDON:
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1875.

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Brazil.

Report by Mr. Drummond on Trade at Rio de Janeiro, 1874.

Imports

In 1870-71-72 complaints were made of goods imported remaining in store, as they could not be disposed of at a reasonable price. In 1873 the quantity was not so great, but still enough to show signs of overtrading, which, in 1874, appears to have been carried on to a large extent.

Value of goods imported.

The value of goods imported in these last five years are :—

Official Comparative Value.

	Reis.	£	s.	d.
1870	61,335,904$817 =	6,772,506	3	6
1871	74,847,090 534	8,264,366	5	11
1872	77,081,302 475	8,511,060	8	7
1873	75,650,238 531	8,353,047	2	3
1874	88,697,385 312	9,793,669	11	10

undervalued on real value by twenty per centum.

Revenue on importation.

The Revenue on Importation amounted in :—

	Reis.	£	s.	d.
1873	29,627,214$437 =	3,271,388	4	4
1874	31,774,853 930	3,508,473	7	0

or a difference in favour of 1874 of 2,147,639$533 = 237,135*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*

And if we compare 1874 with 1872, a difference in favour of 1874 of 3,341,335$500 = 361,932*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*

Both years are, however, still subject to liquidation, the financial year ending always in March.

Tariff on imports.

In 1873, the Commercial Association at Rio brought to the notice of the Imperial Government the complaints of many of the principal commercial houses against the then existing tariff. The Government granted a commission to revise it, and form one more equitable in its provisions. This was carried out, and the result was a

new tariff, not only more favourable to the Customs revenue, but to the benefit of the manufacturers and working classes of the Empire.

This tariff was promulgated by Decree on the 1st March, 1874, and came into force on July 1st of the same year.

Tariff on machinery.

By this new tariff, machinery of all kinds is now free of duty and impost, also stills, furnaces, retorts, mills, and such like, in any way of use to the farmer and factories, seeds and live plants.

Cottons and Woollens.

Earthenware.

Instruments.

Paper.

The tariff was also reduced on the chief articles of importation, particularly on those in most use amongst the working classes, such as printed calicoes, striped cottons, shawls and counterpanes, clothes made of cotton, stuffs, woollen goods, common earthenware and glass, mathematical, chemical, physical, and optical instruments, and others indispensable to navigation and engineering, and, in general, all those useful to science, paper, printed books, charts and geographical maps, hydrographical &c. Duties on wine also were sensibly reduced, they having been formerly exorbitantly high, which encouraged fraud and the use of deleterious mixtures often injurious to public health.

Silks and Jewellery.

With a view doubtless to prevent smuggling, silk goods in general underwent a great reduction. Lace, jewels, and precious stones, both rough and cut, were also lowered.

It is to be hoped that the smuggling which has hitherto been carried on so extensively, particularly in the southern provinces will now cease, if not altogether, still in a great measure.

Vessels wrecked.

Duties on merchandize and objects belonging to vessels wrecked on the coast of Brazil have been reduced by one half when put to auction or sold for home consumption, and a longer term has been granted to inspect damaged goods, which formerly being three days, is now prolonged to eight, the exception which was made to certain articles, such as tea, brine, oil, spirits, alcoholic and fermented, and others ceasing altogether, no abatement being granted. The abatement for breakage, which was formerly three per centum, is now five per centum.

Fabrications.

I find that an illicit national industry of fabrication of most articles of commerce is carried on to a great

extent, particularly in the case of preserved meats, wines, liqueurs, gin, cotton and woollen goods, drugs, chemical productions, all these now form a most important branch of fraudulent industry. All these are wonderfully imitated: labels, prospectuses, wrappers, capsules, &c., everything is falsified in Rio in the greatest perfection.

Wines are what have most attracted the attention of the falsifiers, and so cleverly is this carried out that, some time ago, there was a great outcry about some wines of Braganza growth, they were prepared with such skill, that the experts were all taken in, a great part of the cargo being bought by connoisseurs.

Imports to Rio.

1874.

The number of vessels entered:— Vessels entered.

	Vessels.	Tons.
1874	1,542	1,152,332
1873	1,585	1,277,507
1872	1,560	978,856
1871	1,394	831,238
1870	1,218	786,120

Ports.	Ships.	
	1874.	1873.
Antilles	1	..
Antwerp	17	15
Baltimore	71	66
Barcelona	16	6
Bordeaux	30	27
Boston	2	2
Cape of Good Hope	6	1
Cadiz	7	6
Callao	28	18
Calmar	2	1
Cardiff	130	129
Cette	2	4
Christiania	2	1
Christiansund	3	3
Copenhagen	5	5
Falmouth	1	1
Gaspe	6	7

Ports.	Ships.	
	1873.	1874.
Genoa	13	17
Glasgow	7	18
Gothemburg	5	2
Hamburg	46	46
Havre	43	42
Hull	2	5
Islands of the Azores	7	7
Islands of Cape Verd	40	51
Island of Jersey	4	4
Island of St. Helena	2	1
Leith	5	9
Lisbon	27	82
Liverpool	119	155
London	65	56
Malmoe	1	1
Marseilles	42	49
New Castle	48	62
Newport	13	21
New York	54	43
Oporto	40	32
Richmond	26	20
River Plate	382	360
Savannah	3	6
Setubal	3	3
Southampton	26	25
Stockholm	2	1
Sunderland	10	6
Swansea	8	24
Tarragona	20	21
Terra Nova (Newfoundland)	1	1
Trapani	3	..
Trieste	11	8
Valparaiso	17	39
Westerwick	23	22
Various	79	88

Principal imports—Turpentine.

Agua Raz (*turpentine*).—Altogether a bad year, and prices lower than the last four years. Average prices 300 to 400 reis per kilog., = 8*d*. to $10\frac{5}{8}d$.

Tar.

Tar.—Fair average prices, large deposits, 17 to 25 milreis per barrel, = 1*l*. 17*s*. 6*d*. to 2*l*. 15*s*. $2\frac{1}{2}d$.

Linen bags.

Amagem (Linen bags), on a limited scale. Prices good, 210 to 250 reis the yard, = $5\frac{1}{2}d$. to $6\frac{1}{2}d$.

Sweet oil.

Sweet oil, large deposits of. Prices fair at the beginning of the year, low at the end. 320 to 380 milreis a pipe, = 34*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. to 41*l*. 19*s*. 2*d*.

Dried cod.

Dried Cod.—Prices ranged from very low to average. Tins 7 to 28 milreis, = 15*s*. 6*d*. to 3*l*. 1*s*. 10*d*.

Lard.—This has been a better year, and prices 1$140 to 1$400 the kilog., = 2*s.* 5½*d.* to 3*s.* 0½*d.* Lard.

Sackings for Coffee-bags.—Coffee being now exported by the new metrical system of weights and measures in sacks of 60 kilog., it was necessary to change the sacks. A good trade appears to be done in this article at firm prices, 195 to 230 reis, = 5*d.* to 5¾*d.* Sackings.

Coal.—A bad year, few buyers, and prices low, most of this mineral arrives to direct orders. Most of the machines in the manufactures of Brazil are moved by horse-power. Price 18 to 30 milreis the ton, = 1*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 6*s.* 3*d.* Coal.

Beer.—In consequence of the numerous manufactories of this beverage which have lately sprung up, and the large consumption of national beer, foreign arrivals were in an unfavourable position, and fetched low prices. The national common beer is a bad imitation of English and German. Beer

It is said that Bass' pale ale, with the label "Ihlers and Bell," is fabricated on a large scale. These fabrications are very justly and honestly condemned by the "Jornal do Commercio." English beer at the beginning of last year was in an unfavourable position on account of the large deposits remaining, and prices ranged very low; and these, even in the hot month of December, did not recover, chiefly on account of the large imports, and the small quantity withdrawn from the market. Price 5 to 8 milreis a dozen, = 11*s.* 0½*d.* to 17*s.* 8*d.* Fabrication of Bass' pale ale.

Flour.—The imports of this article were 68,162 barrels more than in 1873. Flour.

On the 1st January, 1874.	..	45,763 barrels remained.
In 1874	..	402,271 were imported.
Total.. ..	..	448,034

Of which 377,630 were sold, leaving on hand 70,404 barrels on 1st January, 1875.

Statement of number of barrels sold, 1870-74:—

	Barrels.
1870	306,845
1871	367,219
1872	315,775
1873	304,775
1874	377,630

Which shows that in 1874 there were sold 172,855

barrels more than in 1873, 161,855 more than in 1872. Price 12 to 25 milreis a barrel, = 1*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* to 2*l.* 15*s.* 2½*d.*

Gin. *Gin.*—On account of the falsification of this article in Rio, Hamburg, which is the easiest to imitate, was always at a low price.

Prices—	Reis.	Reis.	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Hollands ..	6$000 to	7$000 =	13	3 to	15	5½
Hamburg ..	3 800	4 700	8	4¾	10	4½

Kerosene. *Kerosene.*—On account of the large deposits and arrivals, prices were all in favour of buyers, and have never been so low. Prices 7$600 to 11$500, = 16*s.* 8½*d.* to 1*l.* 5*s.* 4¾*d.*

Butter. *Butter.*—Prices ranged low on account of the large deposits. Price 1$800 to 2$400 the case = 3*s.* 11¾*d.* to 5*s.* 3⅝*d.*

Linseed oil. *Linseed oil.*—Prices firm beginning and end of the years, other months dull. Price 380 to 490 reis per kilog., = 10⅛*d.* to 1*s.* 0½*d.*

Raisins. *Raisins.*—Raisins fetched good prices, but in November and December there were few buyers, as they had large quantities on hand. Price 5$500 to 9$000 the box, = 12*s.* 1¾*d.* to 19*s.* 10½*d.*

Deals. *Deals.*—Large quantities were imported at the beginning of the year for railway carriages, but orders were chiefly direct; market prices were good. Prices 80 to 130 reis a foot, = 2⅛*d.* to 2¾*d.*

Salt. *Salt.*—Prices fluctuating, 500 to 750 reis a bushel, = 1*s.* 1¼*d.* to 1*s.* 7¾*d.*

Planks. *Planks.*—Brunswick pines fetched good prices, Swedish low. Prices 34 to 50 milreis a dozen, = 3*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* to 5*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*

Candles. *Candles.*—This article suffered from the development which has been given to its manufacture in Rio. The Stearine Light Company, it is said, produces excellent candles. Entries of foreign candles were so large that, in spite of the heavy sales, prices went down 400 to 500 reis the packet, 10*d.* to 1*s.* 1¼*d.*

Vinegar. *Vinegar.*—This is now manufactured here in large quantities, and tends to keep down the price of foreign vinegar, 120 to 135 milreis the pipe=13*l.* 5*s.* to 14*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*

Wines. *Wines.*—In consequence of the fabrication of wines

in Brazil, the position of foreign wines is far from satisfactory. In spite of a reduction on these in the new Tariff the market is very dull and it will be difficult for it to recover unless this industry of falsifying is suppressed.

Portuguese wines of Collares and Ribatejo and Dejante, some of the few not yet falsified, hold a good position in the market and a good price. Though it is only a short time since they were introduced here, it appears that they will soon occupy one of the first places in the wines coming from Portugal. Portuguese wines.

Average prices of wine from Spain and France in 1874—

	Milreis.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Red, the pipe ..	175 to 212	=	19	6	5 to 23	8	2	
White, ditto ..	180	230	19	17	6	25	7	11

Principal Exports.

Principal exports.

Number of ships cleared out— Vessels cleared.

	Ships.	Tons.
In 1874	1,211	1,074,020
1873	1,278	1,285,581
1872	1,421	1,023,249
1871	1,127	831,625
1870	1,049	725,688
1869	1,118	747,688
1868	1,013	654,288

These vessels cleared for the following ports :—

Ports.	Ships.	
	1874.	1873.
Akiab	9	9
Antilles	51	61
Antwerp	3	6
Baltimore	68	78
Barbadoes	14	6
Barcelona	2	4
Batavia	11	5
Bergen	4	3
Bordeaux	25	25
Cape of Good Hope	13	6
Calcutta	9	21
Callao	59	19
Canal	21	20
Christiania	..	1

Ports.	Ships.	
	1874.	1873.
Copenhagen	..	1
Cork	..	..
Coast of Africa	..	5
Drontheim	..	4
Falmouth	22	29
Frederikshall	..	1
Galveston	8	10
Genoa	17	21
Gibraltar	9	7
Glasgow	..	1
Hamburg	29	20
Hampton Roads	67	43
Havre	45	39
Helsingfors	..	..
Islands of the Azores	6	5
Islands of Cape Verd	22	27
Island of Mauritius	..	8
Island of St. Thomas	..	1
Islands of Scilly	..	..
India	4	7
Lisbon	32	50
Liverpool	60	82
London	15	16
Marseilles	33	27
Mediterranean	..	2
Mobile	12	11
New Orleans	31	40
New York	80	81
Oporto	13	14
Pensacola	7	3
Port Elizabeth	4	..
Quebec	3	2
Rangoon	5	26
River Plate	202	207
San Francisco	28	17
Sandyhook	1	2
Savannah	8	5
Singapore	2	..
Southampton	37	33
United States	..	16
Valparaiso	16	54
Various	98	78

Official comparative value of exports undervalued at least 40 per cent. Comparative value of exports.

	Reis.	£	s.	d.
1870	67,256,740$000 =	7,426,265	0	10
1871	77,043,332 000	8,506,867	18	2
1872	80,520,290 000	8,890,782	0	6
1873	94,249,776 000	10,406,746	2	0
1874	81,000,000 000	8,943,750	0	0

Official balance of trade. Balance of trade.

		Reis.
1874.	Exports	80,000,000$000
	Imports	88,697,385 000
	Balance against Rio de Janeiro ..	8,697,385 000

The year 1874 has not altogether been a propitious one commercially. Coffee appears, however, to have maintained its position in spite of the difficulty of getting it to the ports for sale and shipment, the roads having become at one time almost impassable in certain districts from the heavy rains: the railroads then showed their great usefulness to the Empire. In January there was a supplemental bloom of the coffee trees, as Mr. Nathan says in his report, a most extraordinary one, and such as had never been known before. Generally a bloom of this description is calculated to yield 500,000 bags, but on this occasion it must have yielded more than 1,000,000 bags. Coffee.

The crop of 1874-75 is estimated at 3,500,000 bags of 60 kilog. Crop of 1874-75.

As in former years coffee occupies the first position in exports. To Europe and the United States 239,582 more bags were exported than in 1873; but from the following Table there appears to be no real increase in the cultivation of this staple article of revenue.

Coffee bags of 60 kilog. exported in following years from 1st January to 31st December. Coffee bags exported.

	Bags.
1864	1,811,929
1865	3,197,464
1866	2,368,634
1867	3,255,980
1868	2,772,929
1869	3,139,789
1870	2,704,742
1871	2,884,626
1872	2,460,351
1873	2,433,709
1874	2,673,281

Destination of coffee. Ports.

Destination of coffee from Rio de Janeiro.

	Bags.
European ports	769,535
(Of which 109,742 bags direct to England.)	
United States	1,521,559
Mediterranean	212,878
Sundry ports	169,309
Total bags	2,673,281

Coffee prices

Extreme prices of coffee for 10 kilog. for 1872, 1873, 1874.

	Superior.		1st good.		1st ordinary.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.
1872 ..	5$515	7$216	5$242	6$604	4$562	5$991
1873 ..	5 298	8 510	5 923	8 170	5 242	7 489
1874 ..	5 950	8 500	5 700	8 050	4 650	7 500

Average exchange.

	Exchange average.	
	Lowest.	Highest.
	d.	*d.*
1872	24	$26\frac{3}{8}$
1873	$25\frac{1}{4}$	$26\frac{15}{16}$
1874	$24\frac{3}{4}$	$26\frac{8}{16}$

Sugar.

The export of sugar is still most insignificant, though there certainly is an increase on that of last year. Save a small quantity to the River Plate and the Southern Provinces, all was consumed at Rio. The number of boxes this year was 2,462 against 251 in 1873.

Assistance should be given by Government and provinces to sugar planters.

The "Jornal do Commercio" calls the attention of the Government and Provincial Assemblies to the necessity for helping the planters to have central sugar mills erected, which have been found so remunerative in most sugar growing countries, also that there should be agricultural banks and capital for agriculturists at a small percentage.

Sugar production is a subject which certainly requires the greatest attention here, as it has decreased to such an extent that unlesssome prompt measures are taken it may fade away altogether, owing to want of

labour and good machinery and the heavy national and provincial export duties. The former of these duties should be entirely done away with to relieve the planters.

To show the present state of the cotton market it is sufficient to quote the words of Mr. Nathan :— Cotton.

"For the trade of Rio this most important article is completely lost. For that of St. Paulo the day seems not far distant when its production, which is yearly reduced, must cease altogether. Exporters cannot afford to pay the price demanded, and dealers are, therefore, constantly obliged to ship their receipts on their own account.

In 1874 the quantity exported only amounted to 222,997 kilog. against 1,123,314 kilog. in 1873. Cotton—quantity exported.

This great reduction arises from prices realized leaving no margin to the planters, as more than half the value is absorbed in the expense of carriage, provincial duties and storage, and export duty of 9 per cent.

COMPARATIVE estimated Value and Quantity of Exports from Rio de Janeiro—1873-74.

Articles.	1874.			1873.		
	Kilog.	Value.	Value in Sterling (26½*d.*)	Kilog.	Value.	Value in Sterling (25*d.*)
		Reis.	£ *s.* *d.*		Reis.	£ *s.* *d.*
Coffee	160,939,345	105,260,439$000	11,622,506 16 1	146,214,978	119,272,140$000	12,921,143 10 0
Sugar	1,746,494	365,670 000	40,376 1 3	184,359	52,710 000	5,710 5 0
Cotton	222,997	124,878 000	13,788 12 3	1,123,314	746,680 000	82,840 7 6
Tapioca	385,680	154,272 000	17,034 4 0	2,104	27,516 000	2,980 18 0
Hides	3,826,840	1,301,125 000	143,665 17 8	1,583,366	689,920 000	74,714 7 6
Tobacco	633,868	640,206 000	70,689 8 3	1,392,905	1,137,840 000	123,266 0 0
Rum, in pipes	73	47,000 000	5,189 11 8	73	7,300 000	790 16 8
Diamonds, in oitavas	1,200	320,000 000	35,333 6 8	1,500	600,000 000	65,000 0 0
Sundries	..	3,000,000 000	331,250 0 0	..	3,000,000 000	312,500 0 0
Total estimated value ..	..	111,213,590 000	12,279,833 17 10	..	130,952,106 000	13,588,973 4 8

The above comparative Table shows that there has been an increase in the quantity exported of the following articles for 1874 on 1873 :—

Coffee	24,724,367 kilog.
Sugar	1,562,135 „
Tapioca..	383,576 „
Hides	2,243,476 „

And a decrease of the following, other articles remaining stationary :—

Cotton	1,099,683 kilog.
Tobacco	1,740,963 „
Diamonds	300 oitavas.

Finances.

Finances.

	Reis.	£	s.	d.
The estimated ordinary revenue of the Empire, 1874 to 1875..	103,000,000$000	= 11,385,413	6	0
Estimated expenditure ..	98,250,168 140	10,848,456	1	0
Balance in favour of the Empire as per Budget	4,749,831 860	524,560	11	11
Estimated ordinary revenue of the Empire, 1875 to 1876 ..	106,000,000 000	11,704,106	13	4
Estimated expenditure ..	102,634,055 635	11,332,510	3	9
Balance in favour of the Empire as per Budget	3,365,944 365	371,656	8	1

Estimated indebtedness of the Empire.

Indebtedness.

	Reis.
Foreign loans	133,183,698$113
Internal funded debt of 4, 5, and 6 per cent. stock	257,668,100 000
Internal funded debt of 6 per cent. gold bonds	27,919,500 000
Internal funded debt prior to 1827 ..	342,894 000
Government notes in circulation ..	149,546,631 000
Treasury acceptances (floating debt) ..	28,491,900 000
Orphans' fund loan	12,186,109 000
Private	880,000 000
Absentees' funds	2,407,885 000
Savings' bank deposits	7,423,950 355
Annuity fund (Monte Soccorro) deposits	546,122 971
Various channels	6,447,714 000
Public	1,175,624 000
Total	628,220,148 439

Equal to 69,365,974*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

Foreign loans.

Years.	When due.	Nominal Value in circulation.
		£
1852	1882	598,200
1858	1888	663,200
1859	1879	291,600
1860	1890	799,500
1863	1893	2,678,900
1865	1902	6,288,900
1871	1909	3,385,400
Total	..	14,705,700

Holders of stock and gold bonds.

Holders.	6 per cent. old stock.	5 per cent. old stock.	4 per cent. old stock.	6 per cent. gold bonds.
	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.
Brazilian	172,996,000$000	512,200$000	3,800$000	11,811,000$000
Great Britain	14,442,900 000	47,600 000	...	3,475,000 000
Sundries	20,869,100 000	384,000 000	...	4,775,000 000
Charitable Institutions and Public Companies	36,187,500 000	361,600 000	115,800 000	7,858,500 000
Sundries in Provinces	11,079,600 000	668,000 000	...	...
Total	255,575,100 000	1,973,400 000	119,600 000	27,919,500 000

Total ... 385,587,600$000 = 42,575,297*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

Paper currency.

Total Paper Currency in circulation December 31, 1874 :—

	Reis.
Government notes	149,546,631$000
Bank of Brazil (No. 1)	30,780,000 000
Banks of emission (No. 2)	1,628,125 000
Total	181,954,756 000

At 26½*d.*, = 19,090,837*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*

Rates of freight.

Rates of freight at Rio for 1874.

	Highest.	Lowest.
	s.	*s.*
To Channel	50	30
Mediterranean	55	30

Destination of bullion and currency exported 1874.

Destination of bullion and currency.

	Gold.	Paper.	Silver.
	Reis.	Reis.	Reis.
Provinces of the Empire ..	20,748$000	2,046,775$000	..
England	1,857,118 000	..	..
France	89,200 000	..	..
Portugal and Possessions ..	416,250 000	..	1,400$000
Italy	10,006 000	..	..
River Plate	4,326,010 000	..	..
Total	6,719,332 000	2,046,775 000	1,400 000

At 26½*d.*, = 741,826*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, 225,997*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, 154*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*

(Signed) VICTOR A. W. DRUMMOND.

British Legation, Rio de Janeiro,
March 9, 1875.

Colombia (United States of).

Mr. Bunch to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Bogotá, February* 12, 1875.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a compendium of the Report made on the 1st instant to the President of the Republic, for presentation to Congress, by the Secretary of the Treasury and National Credit.

This document contains information respecting the revenue, expenses, foreign and domestic debts, &c., of Colombia, which I venture to think may be found of some interest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT BUNCH.

Inclosure.

Précis of the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury and National Credit of Colombia.

February 1, 1875.

Introduction. THE Secretary remarks that the direction of the Public Treasury has been easy since his appointment in April 1874, as there has always been in hand sufficient funds wherewith to meet all claims. All creditors have been paid, and the Bank of Bogotá has had in its possession a considerable sum belonging to the Government.

	Dollars.	Dollars.
The revenue of the Republic during the Financial year 1873–74, is said to have been, in money	3,913,981	
To which must be added a surplus from a former year, of	1,177,624	
Amounting together to		5,091,605
The expenses during the same period were		3,728,933
Leaving a balance of		1,362,673

Revenue.

The chief sources of income are the Custom-houses, which produced 2,800,000 dollars, and the salt works (a Government monopoly), which gave nearly 657,000 dollars.

The expenses during 1873-4, including the service of the National Debt were, as stated above, 3,728,933 dollars.

Scarcity of silver coin.

In consequence of the scarcity of silver money in the country, the Government caused during last year a part of the income derived from the Panamá Railroad to be brought to Bogotá in the form of silver bars, which were coined here. The Secretary states that the operation has been successful, as it has relieved the pressure and has left a profit to the nation of upwards of 12,000 dollars. I may remark that, until this measure was adopted, gold coin was at a discount of from 3 to 4 per cent. People would not receive it without such diminution from its nominal value, and at the theatres, &c., it was stated on the bills that "gold would not be received at all." The Bank of Bogotá issued two classes of notes—one for gold; the other for silver. This anomalous state of things continued for nearly two years, naturally to the great inconvenience of everybody. At this moment silver and gold coin are of equal value.

Allusion is made to the banks which have recently been established in the Capital as well as in some of the States. As they seem to be doing well, the Secretary advises the withdrawal of certain privileges which had been granted to them at the outset, but which are no longer necessary. The profits of the Bank of Bogotá have been very considerable. The shares, on which only 250 dollars have been paid, are now worth 1,200 dollars. The dividends have been large ever since its establishment.

Foreign Debt.

1. Debt of War of Independence.

The foreign debt of the Republic has been put, of late, on an intelligible footing. The various documents by which the old debt of the War of Independence was represented have been consolidated into one issue by the Convention of 1873. The amount of this issue is 10,000,000 dollors, of which no part has yet been redeemed. The interest on this sum, which is punctually paid, amounts to 450,000 dollars annually.

2. Robinson and Fleming.

There is also the amount due to Messrs. Robinson and Fleming, which is put down at 105,500 dollars.

Loan of 1863.

And, finally, the loan contracted in London in 1863, of which there are still owing about 600,000 dollars. This loan is to be paid off immediately.

"Innocent holders" of bonds.

In discussing different questions connected with the foreign debt the Secretary alludes to the "innocent holders" of the "Robinson and Fleming Bonds," respecting whose claims there has been some correspondence between the Colombian Foreign Office and this Legation. The claims of Messrs. Barnett and Sons and of Mr. Gustavus Liebel have, it appears, been provided for, if not actually paid. There remains the demand of Mr. R. J. Parry, which is recommended by the Secretary to the favourable consideration of Congress; and there is one of Messrs. Guinness, Mahon, and Co., of Dublin, for 300*l.*, which is also stated to be entitled to payment. Of this latter claim I have no knowledge, as it has not been presented through me.

Claims of United States.

It is stated that all claims of the United States on Colombia have been cancelled by the payment, in July last, of 10,373 dols. 50 c. to Mr. Fish by the Minister of the Republic in Washington.

Domestic Debt.

The domestic debt amounts, in nominal value, to 9,752,559 dollars, but it could be purchased for a much smaller sum in cash, as I shall proceed to show. It is divided into classes, of different values and gaining different rates of interest, as follows:—

	Dollars.
1. Privileged Consolidated Debt, which gains 6 per cent. per annum, paid punctually in coin .. (This is worth its nominal value, and is held by charitable institutions; and is also applied to the expenses of public instruction.)	1,828,240
2. Ordinary Consolidated Debt, 3 per cent. interest, worth 50 per cent., 3,225,100 dollars ..	1,612,550

	Dollars.
3. Floating Debt, Treasury Bonds, 6 per cent. interest, 3,070,860 dollars, worth 40 per cent.	1,228,344
4. Floating Bonds, 3 per cent. nominal value, 1,484,707 dollars, worth 16 per cent.	237,513
5. Bonds without interest, for over-due interest, nominal 88,780 dollars, worth 80 per cent.	71,102
6. Bonds for foreign credits (claims) about 10,000 dollars, owing in December 1874, but now redeemed	—
7. Treasury Bills, nominal value 44,500 dollars, worth 65 per cent.	28,925
Actual cash value of the Domestic Debt on February 1, 1875	5,006,674

Pensions.

The Secretary complains that the number of pensions granted by Congress increases each year, and recommends economy. They amount to a yearly sum of 227,559 dollars, distributed as follows:—

	Dollars.
Soldiers of the War of Independence	87,147
Invalid soldiers, &c.	25,559
Nuns, whose convents have been suppressed	43,440
Sundry pensioners	963
Ordinary civil pensions	65,650
Paid to the Catholic Church	4,800
	227,559

Payments to Church.

The payments made to the "Catholic Church" are for the expenses of public worship in the chapels, &c. of extinguished monasteries and convents which have no revenues remaining. The payment does not mean that the State contributes to the support of any religious body. All denominations are tolerated, and are maintained by the voluntary contributions of their members.

Allowances to nuns and friars.

The sums paid to nuns and friars whose convents have been suppressed are stated by the Secretary to be very liberal. Each nun receives 240 dollars a year, being the interest, at 12 per cent. per annum, on 2,000 dollars, which was the maximum paid on profession. The friars paid nothing whatever, but they receive a monthly pension, based upon the number of years during which they had been professed in 1861, when the convents were closed. No one receives less than 15 dollars a month, whilst some receive 40 dollars.

Public Works.

Two pages of the Report are dedicated to an account of the Capitol, which is being erected in Bogotá for the

reception of Congress, of the President, of the Secretaries of State, and of other public Departments. A portion only is finished, viz., the halls for the two Houses of the Legislature.

The building has cost, up to the end of last year, about 500,000 dollars, and the Secretary calculates that it will require at least as much more to finish it. It will be a handsome work. The designs were furnished some years ago by an English architect, who is since dead, but his plans are being carefully followed. The execution is entrusted to a native builder, Señor Olaya, who deserves great credit for his work.

The Secretary recommends the vote of a moderate sum of money for the repair of other buildings belonging to the nation in Bogotá and the States, which is only reasonable.

Proposed reforms.

The Secretary closes his Report by indicating many reforms which Congress might introduce, not only in the administration of the revenue, but also in the manner of keeping the public accounts. These are matters of purely domestic interest, for which reason I do not enlarge upon them.

France.

Report by Mr. Adams on Commerce, Navigation Returns, and Operations of the Bank of France, 1874.

Paris, April 5, 1875.

THE commercial results of 1874 have not only equalled, but exceeded these of 1872 and 1873.

In 1872 the imports and exports together amounted to 293,277,720*l.*

In 1873 they showed a small increase, and amounted to 293,683,800*l.*

In 1874 they reached 305,030,560*l.*

Taking the two last years, the value of imports and exports was as follows:—

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Imports	142,191,560	149,920,440
Exports	151,492,240	155,110,120
Total	293,683,800	305,030,560

If the monthly returns are examined it will be seen that, at the commencement of 1874, the imports increased and the exports diminished. At the end of the first six months the exports were less by 7,888,920*l.* than those of the same period of 1873, but they then took a fresh start, regained what they had lost, and finally the total for 1874 exceeded that for 1873. The imports meanwhile decreased as the exports increased. They rose somewhat in September, but fell below those of 1873 for the last three months of the year. Still the balance was in favour of 1874. The total of imports and exports in 1873 and 1874 is made up as follows:—

IMPORTS.

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Articles of food	37,540,400	37,247,920
Raw materials	84,330,760	90,703,560
Manufactured articles ..	13,714,400	15,444,880
Other articles	6,606,000	6,524,080
Total	142,191,560	149,920,440

EXPORTS.

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Manufactured articles ..	85,703,440	86,902,720
Natural alimentary productions .	57,848,760	59,667,040
Other articles	7,940,040	8,540,360
Total	151,492,240	155,110,120

The articles of food imported in 1874 appear to have been less in value than those in 1873 by nearly 300,000*l.* This seems to have been a surprise. During 1874—at least at its commencement—the necessities of internal consumption not being satisfied by the agricultural production of 1873, large quantities of cereals had to be imported. The importation of corn and flour thus reached 13,638,480*l.* in 1874 from 9,161,320*l.* in 1873. Again, instead of importing oleaginous fruits of the value of 1,500,000*l.* as in 1873, the value imported was a little less than 1,800,000*l.* A different result from the actual one was therefore to be expected, but the fact is that these increased imports have been well balanced by heavy diminutions on the following articles:—

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Fruits of the table	1,427,080	1,177,240
Sugars	4,419,000	3,942,800
Coffee	3,981,240	3,455,240
Cattle	6,171,920	4,460,360
Meats	1,233,160	751,240
Olive oil	1,194,280	731,400

With regard to raw materials, the amount imported tends continually to increase. In 1874 it was 6,372,830*l.* more than in 1872.

Of foreign manufactured articles there were imported in—

	£
1872	19,208,600
1873	13,714,400
1874	15,444,880

The importation in 1874, therefore, of these articles exceeds that of 1873, but is less than that of 1872. It must be remembered, however, that certain foreign productions have considerably developed, *e.g.* :—

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Glass and crystals	204,840	404,640
Cotton thread	864,000	1,235,400
Silk tissues	1,221,400	1,476,560
Woollen ditto	2,388,920	2,658,560
Cotton ditto	1,907,000	2,289,200

To pass to the exports; here are some of the items :—

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Silk tissues	19,107,520	19,086,640
Woollen ditto	13,036,720	14,104,840
Cotton ditto	3,082,120	2,940,760
Linen or hemp ditto	1,023,960	1,049,360
Woollen thread	1,251,680	1,538,880
Cotton ditto	356,160	231,120
Linen or hemp ditto	622,000	769,120

Thus silk tissues have hardly varied in the two years, whilst woollen, linen, and hemp tissues and threads have increased in 1874. There is a diminution in the remaining articles.

There is an increase in the export of the following articles :—

Ivory work, &c. ("tabletterie"), toys, and haberdashery, 6,299,400*l.*, or an increase of about 280,000*l.*

Refined sugar, 5,850,040*l.*, or an increase of about 130,000*l.*

Articles in skins and leather figure in 1874 for the sum of 5,377,920*l.*, and tools and other metal articles for a sum not far short of 4,000,000*l.* The amount of export in these articles was much the same in 1873.

Among the French goods which show a deficiency in export in 1874, ready-made clothes and linen articles are most affected; 2,927,200*l.* in 1874 being a decrease as compared with 1873 of about 633,000*l.*

Among articles of food and raw materials, the following variations should be noticed:—

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Cereals	7,001,880	5,658,280
Farinaceous food	1,376,040	1,630,040
Fruits for the table	1,048,760	2,153,680
Wines	11,250,000	9,463,320
Brandies	3,910,280	2,815,320
Sea-fish	1,356,280	1,069,880
Butter	3,067,840	3,611,960
Wool	3,464,240	4,280,840
Silk and silk waste	4,007,520	4,813,160
Cotton in wool	2,704,200	3,362,480

It may be remarked that the amount of the exports of wines and brandies has never been so high as in 1873.

Movement in Precious Metals.

	1873.	1874.
	£	£
Import	22,588,840	38,045,040
Export	19,670,760	6,372,520

I subjoin a Table of Customs Returns, giving the whole commercial movement for the last ten years.

Customs Returns.

Commercial Movement for last Ten Years.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1865	105,672,240	123,535,000	229,207,240
1866	111,739,360	127,224,000	238,963,360
1867	121,060,560	113,036,400	234,096,960
1868	132,149,160	111,596,560	243,745,720
1869	126,122,840	122,997,640	249,120,480
1870	..	..	..
1871	..	..	..
1872	142,812,800	150,464,920	293,277,720
1873	142,191,560	151,492,240	293,683,800
1874	149,920,440	155,110,120	305,030,560

Navigation Returns.

Table of the Shipping Movement (comprising French and Foreign Ships) for 1865 and the last five years :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1865	29,018	4,987,000	22,138	3,593,000
1870	30,565	6,610,000	22,168	3,965,000
1871	30,008	6,489,000	17,708	3,945,000
1872	29,893	6,719,011	23,211	5,171,000
1873	31,971	7,372,202	22,757	5,154,398
1874	30,493	7,593,224	23,807	5,506,948

It should be remarked that these numbers relate only to ships with cargoes, those entering or clearing in ballast not being included therein.

There has thus been a considerable progress in the amount of tonnage since 1865. Comparing the Returns for 1874 with those for 1865, it results that the increase in favour of 1874 in the tonnage of ships entered, amounts to 2,606,224 tons, in that of ships cleared to 1,913,948 tons. It is true that the number of ships has not increased in the same proportion, but this is attributed to the tendency of shipowners to prefer vessels of large tonnage, and steamers to sailing-vessels.

From the next Table it will be seen what the move-

ment in French ships alone has been for the same years.

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1865	11,849	1,983,000	9,605	1,648,000
1870	9,841	2,092,000	6,587	1,668,000
1871	9,273	1,966,000	6,406	1,645,000
1872	10,268	2,297,911	9,048	2,191,994
1873	10,001	2,394,574	8,567	2,186,200
1874	10,136	2,521,328	9,134	2,273,949

The French ships, therefore, which entered French ports in 1874 formed one-third, and those which cleared from French ports formed two-fifths of the whole number. It also appears that although the French shipping movement was, as was natural, much diminished in the unfortunate years 1870 and 1871, it shows in 1874 an increase of 538,328 tons in ships entered, and of 625,949 tons in ships cleared as compared with 1865. The number of vessels has in fact diminished, but this is not considered important for the reason given above.

I add a Table of the general shipping movement in 1874 in the principal ports. This only includes ships with cargoes.

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Marseilles	5,255	1,924,189	4,265	1,641,308
Havre	2,550	1,366,172	1,538	891,920
Bordeaux	1,479	618,219	1,404	634,661
Boulogne	1,654	345,449	1,332	256,873
Dieppe	1,449	326,616	962	184,722
Dunkirk	2,148	514,799	1,040	171,877
Calais	1,556	305,376	1,287	230,628
Cette	1,375	268,393	2,158	228,606
Nantes	727	81,209	526	69,171
St. Nazaire	596	244,167	180	73,377
Rouen	919	191,891	617	96,424
Nice	408	42,892	235	22,271
Bayonne	455	54,083	542	58,071
Other ports	9,922	1,308,769	8,720	946,356
Total	30,493	7,593,224	23,807	5,506,948

Bank of France.

The Report on the operations in 1874 has been published. From this Report it appears that—

	£
1. The total business for 1873 was	668,613,248
„ „ 1874	570,832,564
Diminution for 1874	97,780,684

This diminution is to be accounted for by the general decline of business in 1874.

2. The rate of discount in 1874 has undergone two changes. Fixed at 5 per cent. on November 27, 1873, it was lowered to 4½ per cent. on March 5, 1874, and to 4 per cent. on June 4, 1874, where it has remained.

3. Discount accommodation in Paris and its branches.

1873 (including the Mint Bonds) ..	584,383,084
1874	488,785,088
Diminution for 1874	95,597,996

The total for 1874 is made up as follows :—

	£
Trade Bills	321,034,962
Treasury Bonds	162,657,500
Bonds of the City of Paris	4,848,068
Mint Bonds delivered on deposit of bullion for coinage	244,558
	488,785,088

Of these items the Trade Bills show a decrease compared with 1873 of 61,442,223*l.* This is to be accounted for, as the Report says, by the necessity for the liquidation of national loans. The economic situation of several foreign countries and the internal situation of France are also to be taken into account; besides, much excellent bank paper, which the bank discounts to supply the wants of a large circulation, now reverts to the portfolios of capitalists to await the return of active business and advantageous investments.

The maximum of discounts (including the branches) is stated to have been on the 31st of December, 1873. At that date, exclusive of Treasury bonds and bonds of

the City of Paris, it reached 49,652,000*l.*; the minimum was 23,548,000*l.* on the 26th of September, 1874.

4. Advances on securities.

	£
1873	22,516,268
1874	19,586,024
Diminution for 1874	2,930,244

During 1874 the rate of interest on advances was maintained at 1 per cent. above the rate of discount for trade bills.

5. Specie reserve. This has been raised from 30,400,000*l.* on December 26, 1873, to 53,240,000*l.* on December 26, 1874. This enormous increase is attributed to the course of exchange being constantly favourable to France since 1873, a state of things which results from the balance of international traffic having been on the side of France during the same period, other nations having to pay for their purchases not in negotiable paper, but in gold and silver. The Report, in remarking that this is a result on which the country may be congratulated, states that all means have been taken for this specie to be put into circulation, so as to diminish the amount of notes.

6. Circulation of bank notes of the Central Bank and its branches.

Amount on—	Fr.	£
December 26, 1873 ..	2,807,689,600	or 105,643,277
January 15, 1874 . ..	2,916,356,100	116,654,244
June 22, 1874	2,462,155,600	98,486,224
January 28, 1875 . ..	2,641,081,935	105,643,277

The last amount is thus composed :—

Fr.		Fr.
Notes of 5,000	6	30,000
1,000	822,297	822,297,000
500	431,922	215,961,000
200	4,094	818,800
100	9,698,075	969,807,500
50	6,410,499	320,524,950
25	190,150	4,753,750
20	14,986,159	299,723,180
5	1,342,701	6,713,505
Different old notes ..	1,292	452,250
	33,887,195	2,641,081,935

It will be remembered that the Law of the 15th of July, 1872, fixed the maximum of bank-note circulation at 3,200,000,000 fr., or 128,000,000*l.* This had been previously fixed at 2,800,000,000 fr., or 112,000,000*l.*, by the Law of the 29th of December, 1871.

The Bank of France has, as the Report states, been always anxious to pave the way for a resumption of specie payments, and has therefore been endeavouring to reduce, as much as possible, the number of notes in circulation. It is thus that, thanks to the return into France of silver 5-fr. pieces, the opportunity has been embraced of substituting them for the notes of that amount recently in circulation. It is said that, within a few millions, the 5-fr. piece has already taken the place of the 5-fr. notes.

The return of gold into the bank has just permitted it to apply a similar measure to the 20-fr. notes; any further issue of such notes is suspended, and those in circulation are to be gradually replaced by gold.

The following further details respecting notes are, I believe, accurate :—

Official List of Notes issued in 1874.

Of 1,000 fr.	731,000
500	300,000
100	3,625,000
50	4,500,000
20	4,300,000
Total	13,456,000

representing a sum of 1,254,500,000 fr., or 50,180,000*l.* No notes of 5 fr. were issued in 1874.

Compared with 1873 there is a diminution of issue of 38,822,000 notes for a sum of 43,500,000 fr., or 1,740,000*l.*

The notes annulled in 1874 were :—

Of 5,000 fr.	1
1,000	369,000
500	168,400
200	19,400
100	951,007
50	314,000
Total	1,822,108

representing a sum of 568,185,700 fr., or 22,727,428*l.*

The burning of notes, suspended in 1869 and recommenced in 1873, has been continued in 1874, but in consequence of some most satisfactory experiments, the destruction of imperfect or worn-out notes by burning was given up on the 1st of December last, the bank having approved of a new system of destruction, which reduces the notes to a paste under the influence of chemical agents and steam.

Thus 1,989,353 notes have been burnt and 560,225 destroyed by a chemical process, making a total of 2,549,578. This total is made up as follows :—

Of 1,000 fr.	579,201
500	237,600
250	1
200	64,500
100	1,379,276
50	289,000
Total	2,549,578

representing a total value of 863,278,850 fr., or 34,531,154*l.*

The notes withdrawn from circulation in 1874 amount to 41,248,006, which is an increase of 5,301,993 on those withdrawn in 1873.

It appears that the Bank possessed, at the beginning of 1874, 68 branches actually doing business, and that five others, namely, at Beauvais, Bourges, Chartres, Moulins, and Vesoul, were then on the point of being opened. Nine others are being established, and there remain seven more to be established, making the whole eventual number to be eighty-nine.

The dividend paid per share in 1874 was, according to the Report, 285 fr., or 11*l.* 8*s.* This was made up as follows :—

	Fr.	
Dividend of first half-year	$164\frac{94}{100}$	per share.
Ditto, second half-year	$128\frac{86}{100}$	„
	$293\frac{80}{100}$	„
Less tax	$8\frac{80}{100}$	„
	285	„

The dividend has been distributed among 18,507 shareholders, representing 182,500 shares, of which

107,924 belong to proprietors possessing the free disposal of their property, and 74,596 to minors, incapacitated persons, married women, and public establishments.

(Signed) F. O. ADAMS.

Greece.

Report by Mr. Malet on the Finances, Trade, Agriculture, &c., of Greece, during the year 1874.

Budget of 1874.

The Budget of 1874, presented during the late Session, showed an increase over its predecessor both in receipts and expenditure. Originally prepared by the Finance Minister of the Deligeorges Cabinet, it has received several modifications, and is finally stated as regards the totals of receipts and expenditure as follows:—

	£
Expenditure	1,443,738
Revenue	1,428,571
	15,167

The estimated receipts and expences for 1873, nearly balanced each other and amounted each to over 1,250,000*l*. The increase in receipts for 1874 is calculated principally on produce and land tax, and on mining royalties. The increase in expenditure extends to nearly every item.

Budget of 1875.

The Budget for 1875 was presented to the Chamber almost simultaneously with that of 1874, but has not been discussed or passed. Its most important feature

New loan for 26,000,000 fr.

however, a change in the appearance of the credit on the internal debt, was provided for by the introduction of a Bill authorizing a loan of 26,000,000 fr. from the National Bank, which was passed on the 9th of December (27 November o.s.).

Terms on which it was negotiated.

This loan of 26,000,000 fr. or 29,000,000 dr. was issued at 81 per cent. on the nomial capital and ½ per cent. sinking fund, more reasonable terms than the general reputation of the condition of Greek finances would have appeared to warrant, for they cost the Government only 7·40 per cent. interest not reckoning the drawings. The loan is dedicated to the conversion

Object of the loan.

of former loans and debts bearing from 8 to 12 and 13 per cent. interest and sinking funds, so that the allevia-

tion afforded by it to the National Treasury is considerable.

The debts to be thus converted are as follows, according to the statement of the Minister of Finance in the Budget of 1875:— Debts to be converted by it.

		Yearly Payments.
	Drachmas.	Drachmas.
1. Remainder of the loan of 9,000,000 fr...	6,608,000	1,700,000
2. Remainder of two loans secured on the Customs of Cephalonia at 8 per cent., and sinking fund at 2 per cent. for one of these loans, and 10 per cent. for the other	1,657,000	418,000
3. Debts to the National Bank and the "Banque Général de Crédit," for the issue of public bonds, and at 8 per cent., including sums paid in the current year, on account of debts contracted last year	8,150,000	1,400,000
4. Debt of the Ionian Islands at 8 per cent.	3,800,000	304,000
5. Judicial awards on which 12 per cent. is paid, and 13 per cent. in case of a renewal of the order to pay ..	700,000	100,000
6. Expenses on preceding Budgets, of which a portion has become urgent, and on which 12 per cent. is paid ..	1,650,000	30,000
7. Debt for the construction of roads ..	1,000,000	..
Total	23,565,000 = £841,652	3,952,000 = £141,142

It will be seen by the foregoing table that a debt of 23,565,000 dr. on which the present charge on the Treasury amounts to nearly 4,000,000 dr. will be absorbed by the new loan on which the annual charge for interest and sinking fund is less than 2,000,000 dr., whereby the State will make a saving of about 2,000,000 dr. a year. Its apparent advantages.

But the estimated decrease in the Budget for 1875 under the head of payment for internal debt appears to be only 826,747 dr. since the previous year, and on this point it is safer to quote the Minister's language than to attempt an explanation. He says "an examination of the Budget shows that the conversion of the loans produces a difference in the credits of only 826,747 dr., Greater than its real ones. Explanation of Minister of Finance.

but this difference by itself does not show all the advantages of the new loan. We must take into consideration not only the sum stated in the Budget of 1874, but also what the State has to pay in the rearrangement of the Budget of 1875 on its present obligations, for since the compilation of the Budget of 1874, a fresh amount has been added to the provisional loans, and were it proposed to leave these loans standing in 1875, it would unquestionably have become necessary to raise further provisional loans, so that the schedule would have stood thus:—

	Drachmas.
"Interest and sinking fund on the Cephalonian loan	418,200
"Ditto on loan of 9,000,000 fr.	1,700,000
"Interest on provisional loans.	650,000
"Interest on Ionian bonds	300,000
"Interest on Judicial awards	130,000
"Total	3,198,000
"But in consequence of the contraction of the new loan instead of the above credits, we only require upon the 29,120,000 dr. × 6·50 per cent.	1,892,000
"So that the actual difference in the Budget amounts to	1,306,200

"To this may be added an amount derived from the collection of sums on account of perishable property effected by the Treasury instead of the National Bank, which may be calculated for the year 1875 at about 800,000 dr."

Public Debt of Greece.

The difficulty of obtaining an accurate knowledge of the debt of Greece has frequently been mentioned in the previous reports of Her Majesty's Secretaries of Legation at Athens, it may therefore be useful to reproduce the following list which has appeared in a Greek financial newspaper edited by an official in the Ministry of Finance.

List of Debts.

The debt is divided into external and internal debts.

The external debt consists of the original debts of 1824 and 1825, and of the guaranteed debt of 1832.

Foreign Debt.

1. The debt of the 21st of February 1824 amounting to 800,000*l.*, and the debt of 1825 amounting to 2,000,000*l.* Of the latter debt 250,000*l.* were used to buy 500,000*l.* worth of the first debt, so that the debt then consisted of 300,000*l.* on the first loan and 2,000,000*l.*

on the second, amounting together to 2,300,000*l.* or 64,676,000 dr.; add to this amount, interest at 5 per cent. from 1825 to 1874 161,690,000 dr. and it appears that the present debt on account of these loans is 226,366,000 dr. = 8,084,500*l.*

2. *Loan of* 60,000,000 *fr. in* 1834.—This loan, negotiated under the guarantee of the three Powers, was raised at the time that King Otho came to the throne. It was negotiated with the house of Rothschild at ninety-four on the security of the revenues of the State for the interest and sinking fund.

Bonds of three series were put in circulation to the amount of 57,329,040 fr. or 63,924,559·87 dr. Redeemed by drawings up to the 1st of September, 1866, 48,300,652·95 dr.; at that date 13,661 bonds remained, value 15,623,906·92 dr.

The guaranteeing Powers paid from 1838 to the 31st of December 1866 on account of the loan 89,410,048 dr., on which sum certain repayments were made to them. Their respective share of advances was:—

	Francs.
England	$26,223,237\frac{06}{100}$
Russia	$27,536,288\frac{47}{100}$
France	$26,299,615\frac{44}{100}$
Total	$80,059,140\frac{97}{100}$

But as the Powers paid for the rest of the 13,661 bonds as they were drawn, the sum of 15,623,906 dr., the debt of Greece towards them without interest amounts to 105,033,954 dr. or 3,751,212*l.*

Internal Debt.

3. *Indemnity to the Islands.*—The claims of the Islands (Hydra, Spezzia, &c.,) amount, according to official information, to 3,000,000 dollars or 18,000,000 dr.

4. *Old recognised claims.*—These are reckoned approximately at 7,000,000 dr.

5. *Loan of* 6,000,000 *dr.*—Negotiated under a Decree of 26th November, 1862, at 6 per cent., with a sinking fund of 1 per cent., and 1 per cent. for 95 preference shares to be drawn every year. This loan consisted of 60,000 bonds of 100 dr. each, of which 50,126 remain

after the 12th drawing on the 10th of October, 1874, representing 5,012,600 dr.

6. *Exchequer Bills for* 6,000,000 *dr.*—The issue of exchequer bills for 6,000,000 dr. was authorized in 1864 and 1865 to bear 8 per cent. interest. They constitute the floating debt, and are still owed in entirety.

7. *Debt of the Ionian Islands* (*to be extinguished by the the New Loan*).—This debt, amounting to 4,963,592 dr., bearing 5 to 7 per cent. interest, was accepted by the Greek nation at the Union and the interest was increased to 8 per cent. On the 16th of November, 1874, the remainder owing was 3,800,000 dr.

8. *Loan of* 28,000,000 *dr.*—By the Law of the 15th April, 1867, the Hellenic Government was authorized to raise 25,000,000 fr. or 28,000,000 dr. by the issue of 100,000 bonds of the nominal value of 280 dr., and the real value of 224 dr., bearing 8 per cent. interest, and a sinking fund of 1 per cent. On these terms 59,798 bonds were sold, and the interest being increased by the Law of the 12th April, 1868, from 8 to 9 per cent., the remainder were disposed of. After the 15th drawing on the 16th of September, 1874, 90,126 bonds remained in circulation, giving as the present remainder of the loan 25,225,280 dr.

9. *Debt to the Heirs of King Otho.*—Fixed by the Convention of 1868 at 4,500,000 dr. The Greek Government undertook to pay yearly interest and sinking fund 225,000 dr., 385,632 dr. have been paid, leaving 4,114,368 dr. still due.

10. *Debt of* 9,000,000 *fr.* (*to be extinguished by the New Loan*).—Of this loan negotiated in 1870 at 9½ per cent. and a sinking fund of 7·27 per cent. there remains 6,608,000 dr.

11. *Loan of* 4,000,000 *fr.*—Authorized by the Law of 1871. It bears 8 per cent. interest and 1 per cent. sinking fund. 1,600 bonds were issued at the nominal rate of 280 dr. and the real value of 252 dr. After the last drawing on the 16th of September, 1874, 15,470 bonds were still in circulation, value 4,331,600 dr.

12. *Loans of* 15,000,000 *dr. of* 1866 *and* 1868 (*to be extinguished by the New Loan*).—By the Law of the 5th of January, 1866, the Government was authorized to negotiate a loan of 15,000,000 dr. at 8 per cent. and 2 per cent. sinking fund with the object of redeeming

some of the public debts, and by a Decree of the 6th of November, sanctioned by the Chamber on the 15th of December, 1868, the interest was raised to 10 per cent. Of this debt there still remain 1,657,000 dr.

13. *Temporary Loans* (*to be extinguished by the New Loan*).—Temporary loans of various descriptions raised since 1870 amount to 8,150,000 dr.

14. *Debts to National Creditors* (*to be extinguished by the New Loan*).

	Drachmas.
(*a.*) Adjudged claims at 12 per cent. amount, including interest to about	750,000
(*b.*) Public creditors and functionaries	1,600,000
(*c.*) Unpaid road subventions	1,000,000
Total	3,350,000

15. *Loan of* 26,000,000 *fr.*—This loan, sanctioned by the Chamber on the $\frac{27\text{th November}}{9\text{th December}}$, is divided into bonds of the nominal value of 500 fr. or 560 dr. at 6 per cent. interest and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. sinking fund to be paid half yearly. The real value of each bond is 405 fr., or 81 per cent. on the nominal value. The State has the right to redeem these bonds before the term of forty-four years if it desire to do so.

Recapitulation.

Schedule of Debt.

It appears from the foregoing data that the Public Debt of Greece consists of—

	Drachmas.
1. (*a.*) The foreign loans of 1824 and 1825 ..	64,676,000
(*b.*) Interest on these loans at 5 per cent. for 50 years, from 1825 to the end of 1874	161,690,000
2. Loan of 60,000,000 fr. guaranteed by the three Powers	105,033,054
3. Indemnity to islands	18,000,000
4. Old claims	7,000,000
5. Loan of 6,000,000 dr. of 1862	5,012,600
6. Exchequer bills for 6,000,000 dr.	6,000,000
7. Ionian debt	3,800,000
8. Loan of 28,000,000 dr. of 1867-8.	25,225,280
9. Debt to King Otho's heirs	4,114,368
10. Loan of 900,000 fr. of 1870	6,608,000
11. Ditto of 4,000,000 fr. of 1871	4,331,600
12. Remainder of the loans of 1866 and 1868 ..	1,657,000
13. Temporary loans	8,150,000
14. National creditors	3,350,000
15. Remainder of the loan of 29,000,000 of 1874, after subtraction of the sums taken to convert loans	5,435,000
Total	430,082,902

Or, stated according to the amount contracted previous and subsequent to the fall of King Otho—

	Drachmas.
*Loans of 1824 and 1825	226,366,000
Loan of 1832	105,033,054
Island claims	18,000,000
Old claims	7,000,000
	356,399,054
Residue of debt contracted since the fall of King Otho in 1862	73,683,848
Total	430,082,902

Or, according to the categories preserved in the Budget—

	Drachmas.
1. Foreign debt	335,513,422
2. Internal debt	94,569,480
Total	430,082,902
	=
	£15,360,103

Total of Debt.

Interest paid on Debt.

In the Budget for 1875 the interest to be paid by Greece on foreign and internal debt is put down at 270,000*l.* This sum on a debt of 7,000,000*l.* (for, in order to put the matter in the most favourable light the unrecognized debts of 1824-25 may be omitted from the calculation) amounts to a percentage on its obligations of rather less than 4 per cent.; but this easy rate is unequally distributed. On the foreign debt, which amounts to 3,500,000*l.*, exclusive of the debts of 1824-25, and the debt to King Otho's heirs, the Budget assigns 36,500*l.* or interest at the rate of rather more than 1 per cent. While on the internal debt (including that to King Otho's heirs), amounting equally to 3,500,000*l.*, the sum to be paid is estimated at 232,000*l.*, or an average interest of more than $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Interest paid on Foreign Debt.

Interest paid on internal Debt.

Guaranteeing Powers entitled to reconsider

It is to be remembered that the sum paid on the foreign debt of 1832 is fixed by an arrangement come to with the guaranteeing Powers which terminated on the

* "With reference to the Greek loan of 1824-25, its nominal amount is now upwards of nine millions sterling; but as it is known that it could be arranged for a sum of about 2,000,000*l.*, the latter amount is that at which it should be stated in a Table of the debts of Greece."—Extract from Mr. Watson's Report presented to Parliament in 1871, p. 167.

31st of last December, and these Powers may now be justified in considering that, if Greece can fulfil her internal engagements with so much punctuality as to enable her at the present moment to borrow at 7·40 per cent., she may fairly be required to pay her foreign creditors more than 1 per cent.

present financial arrangement.

The following Table, based upon one which has appeared in the "Pall Mall Gazette," giving the debts of foreign nations, but omitting Greece from the list, is offered as a contribution to the consideration of this question by enabling a comparison to be made of the situation of Greece with that of other borrowing nations :—

Relative position of Greece as a borrowing nation.

TABLE A.

No.	Countries.	Population.	Revenue.	Debt.	Interest.	Per-centage of Interest on Debt.	Per-centage of Interest of Debt on Revenue.	Rate at which they can now Borrow.
			£	£	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1	France	36,000,000	98,000,000	900,000,000	33,000,000	$3\frac{2}{3}$	$33\frac{1}{2}$	5
2	England	33,000,000	80,900,000	780,000,000	26,700,000	$3\frac{1}{2}$	33	$3\frac{1}{4}$
3	United States	39,000,000	58,000,000	440,000,000	20,600,000	$4\frac{2}{3}$	$35\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$
4	Italy	27,000,000	52,000,000	390,000,000	15,350,000	4	$29\frac{1}{2}$	6
5	Austria	25,000,000	66,000,000	350,000,000	15,000,000	$4\frac{1}{3}$	$22\frac{3}{4}$	..
6	Spain	16,000,000	22,005,000	375,000,000	11,000,000	3	50	15
7	Russia	63,000,000	66,000,000	340,000,000	13,450,000	4	$20\frac{1}{4}$	5
8	Turkey	30,000,000	19,000,000	135,000,000	9,500,000	7	50	10
9	Holland	4,000,000	8,000,000	80,000,000	2,250,000	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$27\frac{3}{4}$	$4\frac{1}{4}$
10	Greece	1,500,000	1,400,000	7,000,000	27,000	4	$19\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{1}{2}$

The Budget for 1875 presents the following totals of income and expenditure:— Budget for 1875.

	£
Expenditure	1,421,125
Revenue	1,415,857
Deficit	5,268

A comparison of the Budgets of 1874 and 1875 gives the following results with regard to their totals:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1874	1,428,572	1,443,738
1875	1,415,857	1,421,125
Decrease in 1875	12,715	22,613

Revenue.

Revenue.

The following Table gives the heads of the revenue for 1875 compared with those for 1874:—

Revenue.

Items.	1875.	1874.	Difference in 1875.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Direct taxes	507,142	532,464	..	25,322
2. Indirect taxes	581,428	543,214	38,214	..
3. Public establishments ..	40,142	38,714	1,428	..
4. Public domains and property ..	114,607	186,785	..	72,178
5. Alienation of national property	92,858	46,643	46,215	..
6. Miscellaneous	28,751	33,394	..	4,643
7. Ecclesiastical revenues ..	11,286	11,286	..	..
8. Receipts derived from closed official accounts	39,643	36,072	3,571	..
Total	1,415,857	1,428,572	89,428	102,143
	Total decrease in 1875.. ..			12,715

The estimated increase and decrease are accounted for thus:

DIRECT TAXES.

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
1. Cereals. The revenue is calculated on only 1,200,000 bushels, as, in consequence of the laws for the distribution of public lands, many proprietors, completing their two years' tenancy and reassuming the obligation of biennial payment, are free from the produce tax; consequently the estimates show a decrease, compared to 1874, of	..	8,928
2. The oil production of 1875 is not expected to be abundant, and is estimated to yield less than in 1874 by..	..	32,142
3. The results of the revenues collected on land burthens, especially currants and acreage, warrant an increase of ..	12,356	..
4. A new survey of houses has permitted an addition on house tax; and the tax on cattle licenses is expected to yield more. The addition on these items is.. ..	3,392	..
INDIRECT TAXES.		
The Customs revenue for 1875 is credited with an increase as the oil production of the Ionian Islands, which was abundant last year, is usually exported the year after production	21,426	..
The revenue on stamps continues to increase yearly, and some alterations in the law which the Government propose to submit to the Chamber, warrant an increased estimate of	16,074	..
Various sources of revenue, which have shown a progressive tendency, add	714	..
PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS.		
The progress of postal and telegraphic correspondence warrants an increased estimate of	1,428	..
PUBLIC DOMAINS AND PROPERTY.		
The Budget of the year 1874 estimated the revenue from the mines of Laurium at 70,000*l.*; but results have shown this estimate to be too high; a diminution is therefore made, calculated upon the basis of a new Convention with the Company, which will be submitted to the Chamber	..	51,785
The growing consumption of salt allows an estimated increase of	892	..
The sale of fisheries having been completed, allows an addition of	714	..

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
The progressive increase of the revenue from woods warrants an increase of	1,071	..
The execution of the laws relating to national produce has caused a diminution to be shown in the estimate of this Return	..	16,000
The same reason leads to a diminution of the estimate of revenue proceeding from orchards, especially fig orchards	..	7,142
The progress on administered property permits an increased estimate of	71	..

ALIENATION OF NATIONAL PROPERTY.

The revenue from perishable property leased for ten years has to be reduced in the estimate, on account of the falling in of the older leases, which were the more important ones	..	2,142
The revenue on the fifth of perishable property and land let for seven years has increased ..	1,928	..
Advanced payments for lands and plantations were as follows:—		
	Drachmas.	
In 1871	969,000	
1872	687,000	
1873	420,000	
1874	231,000	
To end of September.		
The only persons who have still the right of declaration are some proprietors in the Peloponesus, on account of the prolongation of the law concerning railways. The item has therefore been increased in the estimate by .	3,570	..
According to official returns the following appears to be the extent of plantations declared during two years:—		
	Stremmata.*	
Vineyards	117,100	
Currant orchards ..	79,900	
Fig ditto	20,000	
Miscellaneous	58,658	
Total	275,685	
Subtract the stremmata declared during 1873 ..	14,255	
Total on vineyards and orchards	261,430	

* 1 stremma equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre.

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
Stremmata of land not vineyards or orchards .. 811,000		
Subtract for 1873 .. 205,000		
Total 606,000		
On this basis, if all those who make the declaration prefer yearly payment to free themselves from return in produce, the amount to be collected under the Law of the 30th July, 1873, will be as follows :—		
Stremmata. Drachmas.		
Plantations . 261,430 × 4 = 1,045,720		
Land .. 606,000 × 1·50 = 909,000		
1,954,720		
Instead of this sum it has been considered right to estimate the return from this source at only 1,200,000 drachmas, or	42,857	..
MISCELLANEOUS.		
The Miscellaneous Revenue is diminished by the omission of the item of the sale of useless material	..	4,643
CLOSED ACCOUNTS.		
The increase under this head is reckoned at ..	3,571	..
	89,428	102,143
Total decrease in 1875	12,715	

Expenditure.

EXPENDITURE.

Items.	1875.	1874.	Difference in 1875.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Interest on Foreign Debt ..	44,929	44,643	286	..
2. ,, Internal Debt ..	224,817	254,313	..	29,526
3. Pensions	113,536	113,451	85	..
4. Ministry of Finance	46,311	46,694	..	383
5. ,, Foreign Affairs ..	34,611	31,395	3,216	..
6. ,, Justice	105,164	99,907	5,257	..
7. ,, Interior	156,972	160,231	..	3,259
8. ,, Worship . ..	71,829	71,843	..	14
9. ,, War	279,661	264,950	14,711	..
10. ,, Marine	64,298	68,092	..	3,794
11. Civil List and salaries of Deputies	54,464	54,464	..	..
12. Cost of Administration ..	99,176	97,653	1,523	..
13. Miscellaneous	125,357	136,072	..	10,715
Total	1,421,125	1,443,738	25,078	47,691
Total decrease	..	..	22,613	

It will be observed that the only remarkable difference between the budgets for 1874 and 1875 is under the head of the internal debt, and this difference has been already explained.

The credit for the Ministry of War is increased by 14,711*l.* It appears that the army itself has been increased by 1,679 persons, and the following Table gives the complete military establishment of men and horses. The number of officers, which has increased by sixty-one, is twice as large as it need to be for the present strength of the army:— The Army.

TABLE showing the strength of the Army, according to the Budget of 1875.

	Men.												Horses.	
	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers.	Band.	Soldiers.	Clerks.	Sub-Clerks.	Sub-Clerks.	Professors.	Masters.	Students.	Guardians.	Total.	Of Officers.	Of Men.
Ministry of War	24	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	31	3	..
Engineers	41	41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	..	..
Artillery	49	144	28	515	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	736	27	144
Cavalry	23	64	20	233	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	340	19	264
Infantry	380	1,176	381	8,414	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,351	28	..
Pioneers	21	62	9	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	492	1	8
Miscellaneous	99	35	..	..	3	4	8	..	..	..	..	149	16	..
Military School	17	6	2	8	..	..	..	6	8	40	..	87	..	..
Gendarmes	90	266	..	1,250	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,606	30	180
Supernumerary non-commissioned officers . ..	..	184	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	184	..	..
Unattached	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..
Total	749	1,983	440	10,820	3	4	8	6	8	40	2	14,063	124	596
Total according to the Budget of 1874 ..	688	1,933	433	9,254	3	4	8	7	7	45	2	12,384	120	512
Difference, plus	1	50	7	1,566	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1,685	4	84
,, minus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	..	6	..	..
Total increase		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,679	4	84

The following ships are at present in commission :— The Navy.

Ironclad	"Basileus Georgios."
Royal yacht	"Amphitrite."
Screw steamer	"Paralos."
,,	"Salaminia."
,,	"Plexaura."
,,	"Suros."
,,	"Nauplion."
,,	"Afroessa."
Schooners	"Methonë."
,,	"Saffo."
,,	"Aura."
,,	"Kuthnos."
Cutters	"Glaukos."
,,	"Poludeukes."
State Barge.	

Officered and manned as follows :—

Officers	71
Non-commissioned officers..	198
Seamen	384
Total	652

Owing to the melancholy death of Mr. Wodehouse in 1873, and my own absence in China at the time of my appointment to Athens, no financial Report has been sent from this Legation since that of Mr. Watson in 1870. I have, therefore, completed the principal tables in that Report up to the present time, in order that the links in the record of Greek budgets may not be wanting. Expenditure and Revenue from 1871 to 1875.

Table (B) Showing the Revenue of Greece, as estimated in in the Budgets for each of the five Years from 1871 to 1875 inclusive.

Items.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.
1. Direct taxes	11,516,000	12,909,000	12,300,000	14,909,000	14,200,000
2. Indirect taxes	13,655,000	13,685,000	14,500,000	15,210,000	16,280,000
3. Public establishments	754,000	804,000	1,004,000	1,084,000	1,124,000
4. Public domains and property ...	3,115,000	3,709,000	3,801,000	5,230,000	3,209,000
5. Alienation of national property...	2,340,000	1,973,000	1,796,000	1,306,000	2,600,000
6. Miscellaneous	1,054,000	1,130,686	770,000	935,000	805,000
7. Ecclesiastical revenues	237,000	290,000	316,000	316,000	316,000
8. Receipts derived from closed official accounts	1,220,000	1,183,971	1,200,000	1,000,000	1,100,000
9. Arrears	100,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	33,991,000	35,695,357	35,757,000	40,000,000	39,644,000
Total (£ Sterling) ...	1,213,964	1,274,834	1,277,035	1,428,572	1,415,857

TABLE (G) showing the Expenditure of Greece, as estimated in the Budgets for the five Years from 1871 to 1875 inclusive.

Items.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.
1. Interest on Foreign Debt ...	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,258,000
2. Interest on Internal Debt ...	6,414,860	6,897,290	6,394,157	7,121,617	6,294,870
3. Pensions	2,800,320	3,344,320	3,071,320	3,176,620	3,179,000
4. Ministry of Finance	1,108,490	1,353,981	1,289,549	1,307,420	1,296,720
5. „ „ Foreign Affairs ...	830,517	870,787	763,020	879,066	969,116
6. „ „ Justice	2,419,680	2,696,468	2,652,659	2,797,407	2,944,607
7. „ „ Interior	3,455,464	4,092,086	3,943,993	4,486,461	4,395,201
8. „ „ Worship	1,640,810	1,691,985	1,718,566	2,011,614	2,011,220
9. „ „ War	7,416,072	7,654,512	7,146,490	7,418,600	7,830,500
10. „ „ Marine	1,677,927	1,944,230	1,691,478	1,906,574	1,800,348
11. Civil List (1,125,000 dr.), Salaries of Deputies (400,000 dr.) ...	1,525,000	1,525,000	1,585,000	1,525,000	1,525,000
12. Cost of Administration, &c. ...	2,184,122	2,490,194	2,584,803	2,734,290	2,776,930
13. Miscellaneous	1,725,000	2,025,000	1,848,000	3,810,000	3,510,000
Total	34,498,262	37,889,853	35,929,035	40,424,869	39,791,512
Total (£ Sterling) ...	1,232,081	1,353,209	1,283,180	1,443,738	1,421,125

Expense of Administration.

Returning for a moment to Table A before quitting the subject of Finance, it may be observed that the proportion of the public revenue spent in paying the interest on debt is very much smaller than in any of the ten other countries named. It, therefore, follows that the proportion of the expense of administration is very much larger. The existence of this fact is well known and a conspicuous illustration of it is given in the following remarks of a native writer :—

Number of public servants.

"The number of paid employés in the different Departments is as follows :—

Ministry of War (exclusive of soldiers)	3,178
Ministry of Finance (not including pensioners, extra hands, lawyers, &c., who would raise the number to 5,000) ..	1,669
Ministry of the Interior	1,202
„ Justice	860
„ Worship	787
„ Navy	712
„ Foreign Affairs	132
Total	8,540
Add the number of persons who receive pay from the Public Treasury, such as Notaries Public and Mortgage Officers ..	300
Official servants	120
Unpaid „	1,404
Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents who are unpaid, but receive Consular fees	100
Extra hands in different offices	800
Lawyers employed by Government	100
School-masters and mistresses	1,000
Government scholars (holding scholarships)	400

Deputies	190
Employés of the Chamber	110
Pensioners receiving pay from the special civil pension fund, to which Government gives an annual grant of 500,000 dollars	1,700
Total	18,860

"With regard to the amount of payments, each Department stands (1873) thus:

	Dollars.
War	2,843,511
Finance	1,750,796
Worship	1,490,915
Justice	1,447,576
Interior	1,334,073
Navy	781,257
Foreign Affaires	459,759
	10,207,887

"To which sums we must also add the following items:—

	Dollars.
Brought forward	10,207,887
Salaries of deputies, &c.	400,000
Civil List	1,125,000
Extra hands in the different offices	300,000
Pensions and annual grants to civil pension funds	3,071,320
Lawyers' fees	100,000
Percentage to cashiers and collectors	160,000
Discount on stamped paper and postage stamps	830,000
Fees of tellers and appraisers, &c.	100,000
Government scholars	60,000
Allowances and indemnities	60,000
Total	16,414,207

"The above figures bring us to the conclusion that there are 18,860 officials in the Government service; and, supposing these 18,860 persons to have families amounting in the average to 5 persons, we find that they maintain 94,300 souls or one-twelfth of the population of Greece. It is really worthy of wonder how a State, such as Greece, having but a revenue of 33,000,000 dr. and a population of 1,500,000 souls, can afford to lay out 16,414,207 dr. in the pay of its public functionaries. The fact, however, accounts for the general mania now prevailing for Government employment to the detriment of commerce and industry."

The census.

During 1874 the Government issued a Report giving the general result of the census of 1870. The following details are taken from it :—

The population of the Kingdom of Greece amounted to 1,457,894 inhabitants, including the army and navy and sailors abroad. Of this number 1,225,673 belonged to Greece and 232,221 to the Ionian Islands.

Increase of population.

Since the census of 1861 the population has increased 1 per cent., the proportion of the Provinces and the Ionian Islands being respectively ·85 and ·15 per cent. The small progress in the Islands is accounted for by the departure of the English subsequent to the annexation and the emigration of large numbers to Egypt who found employment on the works of the Suez Canal. If the present rate of increase continues, the population will double itself in sixty-nine years and nine months.

The population is divided as follows :—

Peloponesus	611,861
Continental Greece—	
East	235,172
West	121,693
Ionian Islands	229,516
Cyclades	123,299
Eubœa	71,135
Other islands	44,350
	1,437,026

In this total were not included :—

Army	14,420
Navy	1,345
Sailors abroad	7,133

Greece is divided into 13 Departments, 59 Provinces, and 351 Communes; the most populous Departments are Achaia and Elis, and the least populous Department is Zante. Attica is the most populous Province, Paxos the least.

The inhabitants of each Commune were classed as follows :—

1. Persons living in their own communes ..	1,337,002
2. Persons living in communes to which they did not belong	73,441
3. Foreigners	19,958
4. Persons whose communes remained uncertain	6,625

The following Table shows the nationality of foreigners resident in Greece :— Nationality of foreigners resident in Greece.

English	2,099
Americans	24
Germans (in general)	526
French	415
Italians	1,539
Ottomans	15,051
Russians	141
Miscellaneous	169
	19,958

forming 1·37 per cent. of the population.

The population of the chief towns was as follows :— Chief Towns

Name.	1861.	1870.	Difference.	Difference per cent.
Athens	41,298	44,510	+3,212	+ 7·78
Chalcis	4,585	6,447	+1,862	+40·61
Lamia	4,685	4,837	+ 188	+ 4·01
Missolonghi . ..	6,059	5,714	— 355	— 5·69
Patras	18,342	16,641	—1,701	— 9·27
Tripolitza	7,441	7,020	— 421	— 5·66
Sparta	2,024	2,699	+ 675	+33·35
Calamata	6,292	6,327	+ 35	+ 0·56
Nauplia	6,024	3,958	—2,066	—34·30
Hermopolis (Syra) ..	18,511	20,996	+2,485	+13·42
Corfu		15,452	..	..
Argostoli		8,106	..	..
Zante		17,516	..	..

The superficies of Greece is 19,613 square miles, the old Provinces covering 18,561 square miles, and the Ionian Islands 2,625 square miles. Superficies.

The population number 73·26 to the square mile; the older Provinces furnishing 65·04, and the Ionian Islands 217·53. Population for square mile.

Families in Greece, of which the number was 327,809, average 4·38 each. Families.

The census showed that there were 312,519 inhabited houses and 10,607 houses being built. The progress in the number since 1861 was 14 per cent. This increase, which is more rapid than that of the population, denotes an advance in material prosperity. The average number of persons to each house was 4·60, a distribution closely corresponding to the size of the families previously stated. At Athens, however, the houses are more Houses.

numerously inhabited. The families are reckoned at 4·01 per cent. and the inhabitants to each house at 8·19 per cent.

Sexes.

The sexes are divided into—

Males	754,176
Females	703,718
	1,457,894

giving 51·73 males and 48·27 females per cent.

The male population preponderates in nearly all the non-maritime Provinces. The inferiority of their number in the maritime Provinces is accounted for by the facility for leaving afforded by the sea.

At Athens the sexes are divided into 23,371 males and 21,239 females, from which it appears that the males are in a majority of nearly 2,000.

Married and unmarried.

TABLE of the Population according to the "Etat Civil."

	Men.		Women.		Total.	
	Total.	Per Cent.	Total.	Per Cent.	Total.	Per Cent.
Unmarried ..	466,589	63·63	378,058	54·14	844,647	58·84
Married	239,895	32·71	244,250	34·05	484,145	33·73
Widowers or Widows	25,309	3·45	81,410	11·81	106,719	7·43

This Table shows that there are more men without wives than women without husbands. On the other hand there are three times as many widows as widowers. In France and in Italy there are only twice as many widows as widowers.

Professions.

TABLE OF OCCUPATIONS.

Employed in agriculture	218,027
Artizans	48,129
Shepherds	44,532
Proprietors	31,234
Workmen	22,665
Workwomen	5,735
Engaged in trade..	18,952
Sailors	25,178
Servants	17,482
Female servants	10,808
Drivers	3,276

Lawyers	1,141
Artists	958
Doctors	797
Apothecaries	335
Midwives	769
Clergy	6,649
Public functionaries	5,343
Municipal functionaries	4,109
Teachers	1,613
Female teachers	460
Army in active service	12,420
Navy	1,315
Students	61,885
Female students	11,695
	556,507

These are all whose occupation could be ascertained, leaving the pursuits of 61·82 per cent. of the population unknown.

Education.

The returns with regard to the persons who are illiterate or the reverse are not considered to be very trustworthy, and under the term "literate" must be included some who may only be able to sign their names, the inquiries at the time of the Census having been restricted to this test.

Of the 1,437,026 inhabitants (the army excepted), 251,483 were literate, consisting of 207,129 males and 44,354 females, and giving a per-centage of 28·24 to the males and 6·70 to the females. But as all infants have been returned as illiterate, the numbers composing this class should be deducted from the calculation. So if 104,858 little boys and 102,149 little girls are subtracted, we arrive at the following:—

Literate—	
Males	32·96 per cent.
Females	7·37 „

It must be inferred from this that three-fourths of the males cannot even sign their names, and that the same may be said of 92 per cent. of the females. There are indeed fifty-five Communes, in which there is not one woman who can read or write. The Report, however, observes that, nevertheless, Greece is not worse off than other countries in this respect, and cites the following statistics to diminish the bad impression created by the Greek Returns:—

Illiterate—	
Italy	78·06 per cent.
France	32·84 „

The number of the literate in the army is 51·52 per cent., and in the navy 46·84 per cent.

Primary education has always been one of the chief cares of the Government. Communal schools were established by law in 1834 on the German system, that is to say, on the system of compulsory education. By the 6th Article of the Law, all children between the ages of five and twelve years must attend the communal school. Parents are liable to a fine of 10 c. for each hour that the child is absent, but this penalty has fallen into disuse. Children are supposed to be taught catechism, grammer, reading, writing, and arithmetic, and other branches of education of a higher class; but the latter are practically ignored, as it appears that the ablility of the teachers is not up to the standard required by the law.

Number of Communal schools.

There are 1,194 communal schools, 981 for boys and 213 for girls. There is one school for boys in every commune, and often more, whereas there are girls' schools in 128 communes only, 223 being without. There is one school to 747 males, and one school to 3,304 females. The boys' schools average an attendance of 53·97 boys, the girls' schools 51·81. These calculations do not include private schools. In 1870 there were 15,000 persons attending such schools.

In 1870 the communal schools were attended by 63,798 children of whom 52,943 were boys and 11,035 were girls, giving the average above-mentioned.

Setting the number of boys between the ages of five and ten at 97,429, and the number of girls at 91,173, it appears that the number of boys who do not go to school is 45·66 per cent., and that of girls 87·90 per cent.

Expense of public education.

The communes spend annually in primary education 39,232*l.*, or about a sixth part of their revenue, which amounts to 232,885*l.* The State contributes 5,429*l.*

	£
Out of these funds the Communes allow to the teachers	26,431
And the State	4,966
Total	31,397

The total number of persons receiving education in 1870 was 73,580, of which number 61,885 were males and 11,695 females, so that 9,602 were passing through the higher courses of education. The number of males between the ages of five and twenty was 241,440, and of females between the ages of five and fifteen, 162,512. Therefore the proportion of persons under tuition to the rest of the population of an age to be educated, was 25·63 per cent. of males and 7·20 per cent. of females.

The Budget of 1870 shows that the State spends 58,137*l.* in public instruction, about a 27th part of its public expenditure and 3·71 per cent. of its total expenditure. This amounts to a burthen of 87 c. per head on the population.

Religion.

The religion of the population is usually orthodox Greek,—

Christians of the orthodox church	1,441,810
Ditto of other denominations	12,585
Non-Christians	3,499

nearly all the latter are Jews resident at Corfu.

Within the Kingdom there are 67,941 persons whose natural language is not Greek, of whom 37,598 speak Albanian and 1,217 speak a Wallachian dialect termed "Caragouni." The others speak European languages, principally Italian.

Brigandage.

In connection with the remark that the pursuit of more than half the population is unknown, it is satisfactory to be informed in the following Report addressed to the King by the Prime Minister, that the profession of brigandage is extinct:—

"*Athens, January* 4, 1875.

"Your Majesty,

Reported to be extinct.

"I have the honour to submit the inclosed catalogue of brigands surrendered, captured, and killed during the past year.

"I announce with pleasure to your Majesty that brigandage has been completely suppressed, and that safety and tranquillity reign throughout the Kingdom, there being no further trace of brigand bands. No brigand Chief remains unaccounted for, and the residue

of the numerous shattered bands of brigands flying from pursuit has ceased to exist across the frontier."

Number of brigands captured during the year.

The despatch is followed by a Table, showing that during the year fifty brigands have been disposed of. Only one among them seems to have been killed. Six were captured and the rest surrendered, among whom were the infamous Spanos and Veloula.

Security not complete.

Lest the Report of the Prime Minister should produce a complete feeling of security, I quote the following passage of a recent despatch from Mr. Blunt, Her Majesty's Consul at Salonica, to his Excellency Sir Henry Elliot, premising that the decrease in brigandage is in great measure due to the policy and activity of a German officer known as Mehmed Ali Pasha in the service of the Porte, and stationed on the frontier.

Apprehensions with regard to the future.

"Mehmed Ali Pasha, I hear, will shortly proceed to Joanina to superintend measures for the capture or the surrender of some twenty brigands who are still at large in Epirus, and it is reported that he will return to Constantinople as soon as he has accomplished this service. Should this report be confirmed I very much apprehend that brigandage will revive at no distant date on the border; especially if all these surrendered brigands are kept on parole in localities where they have so many confederates and harbourers and under the doubtful surveillance of the rural police."

It is also anything but reassuring to find that during the past year no less than fifty of these ruffians had resisted the efforts of the authorities to root them out and, with a few exceptions, voluntarily surrendered across the frontier to Turkish authorities when the prospect of the lenient punishment of two years' imprisonment and three years' surveillance was held out to them.

Watchfulness of the Government.

It is fair to add that the Government has not withdrawn its request that travellers visiting the neighbourhood of Athens should give notice of their intention to do so to the authorities. There is perhaps at present no danger to be apprehended, but the most likely incentive to a renewal of the scourge would be the cessation of precaution in consequence of fancied security.

Commercial returns.

The last commercial returns issued by the Greek Government appeared in 1873 and were reported upon

at the time by Mr. Wodehouse, Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation. The only materials which afford an indication of the progress of trade since that date are the Reports of Her Majesty's Consuls at the Greek ports, and a perusal of these Reports leaves a favourable impression on the whole as to the commercial progress of the Kingdom. Patras, Corfu, and the Piræus are all moving forward, and though Syra continues to recede it is to be hoped that the scheme now urged upon the Government to erect it into a free port may restore it to its former flourishing position as a depôt of merchandise to and from the East.

General progress of commerce.

Taking the chief ports of Greece and studying the latest Returns in comparison with old ones we find the following results. The comparisons are not those which would be selected if an uninterrupted series of the trade Returns of the ports existed but they are the fittest which the materials afforded.

Piræus.

COMPARISON of the Number of British Vessels Entered and Cleared During the years 1868 and 1873.

British shipping.

ENTERED, 1868.

	Number.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Value of Cargoes.
				£
Steamers	12	6,506	280	55,348
Sailing-vessels ..	23	6,308	223	22,099
Total	35	12,814	503	77,447

CLEARED, 1868.

Steamers	12	6,506	280	..
Sailing-vessels ..	20	5,492	194	3,950
Total	32	11,996	474	3,950

ENTERED, 1873.

Steamers	17	12,609	419	25,645
Sailing-vessels ..	35	24,107	539	74,197
Total	52	36,716	958	99,842

CLEARED, 1873.

Steamers	17	12,609	419	..
Sailing-vessels ..	33	23,059	523	176,383
Total	50	35,766	942	176,383

Increase in 1873.

	Number.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Value of Cargoes.
				£
Entered	17	23,902	455	22,394
Cleared	18	24,740	468	172,433

Patras.

Taking the same years at Patras the following figures appear:—

Year.	British Vessels Entered.	Tonnage.	Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.
			£	£
1868	136	45,866	24,500	409,570
1873	142	109,938	437,650	616,770
Increase ..	6	64,072	413,150	207,200

Syra.

In case of Syra statistics are wanting to make comparisons further back than 1872. In that year and in 1873 the return of trade in British shipping was as follows:—

1872.

	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.	Value of Cargo.
				£
Entered	102	96,975	3,133	229,452
Cleared	102	96,975	3,133	24,768
1873.				
Entered	98	94,563	2,873	331,083
Cleared	98	94,563	2,873	47,647

It appears from these Returns that although the number and tonnage of ships decreased in 1873 the value of the cargoes increased as regards imports by 102,631*l.* and as regards exports by 22,879*l.*

Notwithstanding this improvement and the fact that exports showed an increase of 39,284*l.* and imports a decrease of only 17,254*l.*, the totals being exports

132,447*l.* and the imports 808,754*l.*, Mr. Binney, Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, reports that unless the proposal to make it a free port be carried into effect, or some immediate facilities be given to the trade, its commerce will decrease until it becomes insignificant.

Corfu.

Comparison of British shipping at Corfu in 1868 and 1873.

	Number.	Tons.
Entered in 1868	87	69,359
Entered in 1873	69	65,365

In spite of the decrease apparent in this comparison Sir Charles Sebright writes hopefully that commerce begins to assume a more healthy aspect and is fast approaching the standard of 1865 from which period it began insensibly to decline.

Cephalonia.

British vessels entered at the Port of Argostoli during the years 1869 and 1873:—

1869.	
Number	51
Tons	17,170
1873.	
Number	49
Tons	17,354
Increase—	
Vessels	2
Decrease—	
Tons	184

The report from this Island is, on the whole, favourable, and indicates a growing spirit of enterprise among the inhabitants.

Zante.

Comparison of the number of British ships arriving at Zante in 1866 and 1873:—

1866.	
Number	58
Tonnage	16,567

	1873.
Number	68
Tonnage	24,472
Increase—	
Number	10
Tonnage	7,905

Currants.

Currants.

The currant crop during the last four years was—

	Venetian lbs.	English tons.
In 1874..	156,231,653	= 73,233
1873..	153,576,713	71,989
1872..	151,064,512	70,811
1871..	192,821,395	81,010

The crop of 1874 was distributed as follows in the currant-growing districts:—

Eparchy.

	Lbs.
Patras	14,390,205
Corinth	9,480,951
Œgalea	11,504,325
Naupaktia	247,703
Missolonghi	1,906,279
Olympia	5,456,767
Eleia	35,476,688
Triphelia	19,224,601
Messenia	12,923,562
Pylia	8,053,800
Nauplia	1,456,075
Chalcis	5,775
Gytheon	104,460
Cephalonia	17,936,645
Zante	11,094,758
Ithaca	192,243
Leukas (Santa Maura)	776,816
Total	150,231,653
In depôt	6,000,000
	156,231,653
Equal, English tons	73,233

Figs.

Production of figs during the year 1874:—

	Kilos.*
Kalamos	81,186
Nysios	45,542
Koronë	909
Petalidios	1,579
	129,216

* 8½ kilos. equal 1 Winchester quarter.

Cereals.

ESTIMATED production of Cereals in Greece during the three years 1857, 1873, and 1874.

Cereals.	1857.	1873.	1874.
	Kilos.	Kilos.	Kilos.
Wheat	4,713,585	3,000,000	2,900,000
Barley	2,733,020	2,400,000	2,400,000
Meslin	1,582,340	1,000,000	1,200,000
Maize	301,274	3,600,000	2,900,000
Buckwheat .. .	3,770,288		225,000
Rye	85,136	1,000,000	33,000
Oats	301,274		190,000
Pulse, &c.	4,540		8,000
	13,784,517	9,856,000	11,000,000

Live stock

ESTIMATED number of Cattle in Greece during the years 1854, 1873, and 1874.

Kind.	1854.	1873.	1874.
Sheep	409,036	2,000,000	2,085,277
Goats	2,241,561	1,600,000	1,704,156
Oxen	5,005	5,000	5,065
Buffaloes	1,001	400	433
Cows	79,474	50,000	36,724
Horses	81,692	60,000	52,436
Mules	28,783	23,000	26,376
Asses	66,845	50,000	54,616
Camels	46	150	43
Pigs	100,168	50,000	22,876

Cotton.

Import and export of raw cotton from the year 1864 to 1873.

	Import.	Exports.
	Statyrs.*	Statyrs.
1864	655	10,020
1865	173	30,174
1866	95	14,672
1867	280	9,183
1868	229	12,639
1869	230	18,766
1870	386	8,489
1871	207	11,845
1872	639	20,352
1873	1,966	5,453

* 1 statyr = 123¾ lbs.

Production of cotton thread during 1872, 1873, and 1874.

	Okes.*	Value in Drachmas.
1872	4,143	16,530
1873	60,667	308,818
1874	232,185	928,740

Proposed reduction in duty on cotton.

These two returns, in conjunction, show the increased activity in the consumption of cotton, and the Government now proposes, in consequence, to reduce the duty on this article from 4 c. the oke to 2 c. on cotton without husks, unginned, or with seed, and from 12 c. the oke, to 7 c. on cotton cleaned, without seed.

Customs revenue.

Estimated Customs receipts for ten years ending with 1875.

	£
1866	232,143
1867	345,357
1868	357,143
1869	389,286
1870	364,286
1871	360,714
1872	391,428
1873	382,142
1874	392,857
1875	414,285

Continues to increase.

This shows an increase of upwards of 180,000*l.* since 1865, and the returns of the present year indicate that the scale of increase is at present even more rapid. Athens itself presents many signs of an augmenting prosperity, and it is satisfactory to be able to feel that the Kingdom in general is progressing in spite of the legislative atrophy with which it is attacked. Its commercial system is rarely nourished by beneficial laws, and though the people frequently have to recognize the existence of the Chamber, it is not through the execution of its legislative functions, but through the interruption of industry and the disturbance of peace caused by frequently recurring general elections. A record of the political history of the year will show the disadvantages under which the country labours.

Progress in spite of political affairs.

* 1 oke = 45 oz.

Review of the Parliamentary year.

At the beginning of 1874, the Deligeorges Ministry which, during the preceding year, had been losing ground, found, on the convocation of the Chamber on the 13th of February, that the Opposition was in a decided majority, and M. Deligeorges and his colleagues resigned office after an administration which had lasted eighteen months, an unusually long tenure of office in Greece. They were succeeded by M. Bulgaris and a Cabinet selected from among his supporters. The new Ministry received also the assurance of assistance from the heads of the political sections whose union had driven M. Deligeorges from power. These assurances proved delusive, and within a month from his assumption of office, M. Bulgaris placed his resignation in the hands of the King, in consequence of the Parliamentary weakness of his party. An unforeseen circumstance had altered the current of events. M. Lombardos, Deputy for Zante, in the heat of debate, had ascribed republican aspirations to the Hellenes, and a vote was moved by the Government and adopted, expressing the non-participation of the Chamber in such sentiments. This untoward incident detached from the Ministerial majority M. Lombardos and those who acted with him, and a motion for the discussion of the Budget was carried on the 25th of March by the narrow majority of two. The anticipated defection of another political faction headed by M. Comoundouros, determined M. Bulgaris to resign, and a Ministerial crisis followed, which ended with the month by the return to office of the Bulgaris Ministry, but they were not strong enough to meet the Chamber, which shortly afterwards adjourned for the Easter holidays, no business having been transacted.

Monday, the 27th of April was appointed for the meeting of the House, and on the morning of the same day the Bulgaris Ministry resigned again. The King then sent for M. Comoundouros, who made his assumption of office dependent upon the acceptance by His Majesty of a political programme, which was inadmissible. The crisis lasted till the 3rd of May when, M. Deligeorges having also failed to form a Government, M. Bulgaris was reinstated with the understanding that if the Chamber refused to pass the Budget, it should be dissolved. The dissolution occurred on the 8th of

May. The elections were completed on the 9th of July, and the Chamber met for the dispatch of business on the 5th of October. Six weeks were spent in the verification of elections. Subsequently, the President, the Vice-Presidents, and Secretaries were elected from the ranks of the followers of the Ministry, and there appeared to be a prospect of the legislative duties of the Chamber being proceeded with.

Of these, indeed, there was a considerable accumulation, including the Budgets for both 1874 and 1875. The Government first submitted to the Chamber a law for the loan of 26,000,000 fr., and obtained its sanction. It also presented the two Budgets, a Convention with Austria for the surrender of deserters, another with Germany for making excavations at Olympia, and one or two laws of minor consideration. But the day on which the Budget of 1874 was voted (the 12th December) happened to be a holiday, and so many of the Deputies were absent, that the quorum of ninety-six, necessary for forming a house, was alleged by the Opposition not to exist. Two days (the 14th and 15th December) were spent in discussing the legality of the proceedings of the 12th, and, on the Government obtaining a vote in their favour, the Opposition announced their intention to retire in a body, and carried it out.

Since that date, the Ministry have found it impossible to form a quorum with the number of Deputies which constituted their majority, and the Parliamentary campaign of 1874 came to an end, the sole fruit being the loan of 26,000,000, and the Convention with Austria; for the validity of the vote on the Budget and the other laws, which occurred on the 12th of December, is still a matter of dispute.

Burthens on agriculture.

The returns in cereals and cattle show a considerable falling off in a branch of national industry which ought to be constantly progressive if allowed to pursue its natural development. The late historian, Mr. Finlay, has rendered England familiar with the heavy burthens imposed on agriculture in Greece, and a portion of the inaction of succeeding Governments in alleviating them may, in part, be due to the irritation produced by the fault being so frequently paraded. Mr. Finlay has been called in the fulness of years from the scene of his sympathies, his labours, and his hopes. One of the

Death of Mr. Finlay.

noblest qualities of the Greeks is their gratitude and veneration for the dead who have taken a part in the new birth of Greece, and watched over its growth with a loving eye. The most fitting tribute which the nation could render to the memory of Mr. Finlay would be to execute some of the reforms which he generously advocated during his lifetime at the expense of much personal popularity.

(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

Athens, March 27, 1875.

Italy.

Brief Report by Mr. Herries on the Foreign Trade of Italy during the year 1874.

THE recently published statistics of the "Special Commerce" of the Kingdom of Italy, during the year 1874, show the following general results.

The total value of the imports was 1,304,994,328 lire, and that of the exports 985,458,532 lire.

As compared with those of the previous year, 1873, there was an increase of 17,164,554 lire in importations, and a decrease of 148,085,331 lire in exportations.

The subjoined figures exhibit the value in Italian lire of the articles imported and exported in the several classes of the Tariff, in each of the two years 1873 and 1874.

	Importations.		Exportations.	
	1874.	1873.	1874.	1873.
	Lire.	Lire.	Lire.	Lire.
Beverages, oil, &c	69,706,445	66,074,150	113,601,415	130,173,030
Colonial produce, drugs, chemicals, dye stuffs, &c.	153,759,515	167,176,526	57,614,463	55,168,199
Fruit, &c.	11,309,914	10,837,941	51,834,894	55,802,500
Provisions, &c.	22,625,135	29,678,137	27,034,287	22,387,503
Fish	21,968,140	18,917,755	2,370,300	2,523,080
Animals	16,062,790	12,868,115	25,871,729	44,769,065
Hides and leather	48,582,321	60,258,071	14,963,085	13,879,789
Hemp, flax, and their manufactures ...	33,832,971	33,170,405	42,788,880	43,155,405
Cotton and manufactures	177,386,913	183,239,349	18,293,052	7,751,495
Wool, hair, and ditto	81,837,146	80,511,002	9,513,945	7,020,085
Silk and ditto...	145,078,294	133,602,639	340,656,918	441,793,015
Cereals, flour, and paste	156,885,461	124,819,884	49,886,181	90,709,113
Timber and wood	33,791,458	35,441,504	25,335,894	27,534,149
Paper and books	7,828,286	8,820,952	6,404,280	7,322,212
Mercery and hardware	111,830,424	109,170,767	98,309,043	107,751,695
Metals, common	92,762,776	80,139,846	18,793,696	19,253,769
Gold and silver, and precious stones ...	17,277,864	33,386,908	10,931,117	5,629,445
Stones and earths	53,245,095	56,913,749	44,499,283	48,931,774
Pottery and glass	16,836,540	18,045,187	26,546,490	1,653,721
Tobacco	29,387,540	24,756,887	9,581	331,819
Total	1,304,994,328	1,287,829,774	985,458,532	1,133,543,863

The value of the imports exceeded that of the exports by 319,535,796 lire in 1874, and by 154,285,911 lire in 1873.

The most considerable items of increase or decrease

in 1874, as compared with 1873, were in the undermentioned articles :—

Importation.

Increase.

Wheat, and other kinds of corn.
Iron (pig), railway, wire, &c.
Lead, copper, and other metals.
Silkworms' eggs.
Cocoons.
Sundry silk manufactures.
Coral.
Tobacco in leaf.
Coals.
Horses.
Cows.
Sundry stones and earths, not specified.
Glass bottles.
Specie.
Firewood.
Raw wool.
Cotton, raw.
Ditto tissues, unbleached.
Salt fish.
Cheese.
Sugar, unrefined.
Chemical products, unspecified.
Stearic acid.
Oils, other than olive oil.

Decrease.

Wine.
Spirits.
Olive oil.
Coffee.
Sugar, refined.
Nitrate of potash.
Meat, salted.
Manure.
Fatty substances.
Raw hides.
Cotton tissues, bleached, dyed, and printed.
Woollen and mixed wool and cotton tissues.
Silk, raw.
Ditto tissues.
Timber.
Carriages of all kinds.
Gold and silver bullion, &c.

Exportation.

Increase.

Materials for dyeing and tanning, unspecified.
Eggs.

Butter.
Leather.
Cotton, raw.
Wool, raw.
Silk worms' eggs.
Cocoons.
Waste silk.
Silk lace.
Mercery, common.
Organs, portable.
Straw plaitings.
Gold and silver coin.
Glass beads, &c.

Decrease.

Wine.
Olive oil.
Roots and woods for dyeing and tanning, unspecified.
Oranges and lemons.
Cattle.
Sheep.
Cordage.
Silk, raw.
Ditto tissues.
Wheat, and other corn and grain.
Coopers' staves.
Wood for gun-stocks.
Soldiers' firelocks.
Coral.
Lead ore.
Sulphur.

The total amount of the Customs receipts in 1874 was 98,032,493 lire 26 c. In 1873 it was 94,278,711 lire 69 c.

(Signed) EDWARD HERRIES.

Rome, March, 1875.

Spain.

Brief Report by Mr. Phipps on Spanish Imports and Exports during the year 1874, *from Statistics published in the Official Gazette.*

Spanish Import and Export Trade.

THE Statistical Department of the Ministry of Finance has recently published statements of the Spanish import and export trade during the year 1874, a comparison being made between the imports and exports during the first eleven months of the year 1873, and the corresponding period of 1874, and between those during the months of December of each of those years.

Commercial movement during 1874.

The commercial movement during the year 1874 exhibits a total value of 31,403,330*l.*, of which 15,280,000*l.* is credited to imports, and 16,123,330*l.* to exports. This shows a decrease of 13,710,000*l.* with the total commercial movement of the year 1873, in which the value was 45,113,330*l.*, the imports having increased during the present year by about 2,730,000*l.*, while the exports show a decrease of 16,440,000.

Compared with 1873.

Exports: Decrease progressive throughout the year.

On analysing these statements it is to be observed with regard to exports, that the decrease has become progressively more considerable throughout the year 1874, evidencing thus results but little encouraging as far as the economical position of the country is concerned. That decrease, which, as above stated, amounted to 6,440,000*l.* during the whole year, reached 1,110,000*l.* during the month of December. The reduction in the exportation of oil, which had been progressive during the course of the year, amounted in that month to 136,600*l.*, in that of corks to 50,000*l.*, of dried fruits to 150,000*l.*, of corn to 188,000*l.*, of flour to 125,000*l.*, of wool to 33,300*l.*, of lead to 36,600*l.*, of common wine to 240,000*l.*, of sherry to 330,000*l.*

Articles exhibiting increase.

The only articles which exhibit an increase during the month of December are: Catalonian wines 120,000*l.*, minerals (nett increase) 26,600*l.*, oranges 25,000*l.*, quicksilver 16,600*l.*, and salt 5,000*l.*

Causes of reduction of exports.

A portion of this general reduction, it is argued,

is not due to the civil war; that, for instance, in sherry, amounting to 895,000*l.*, in corn to 1,630,000*l.*, in flour to 825,000*l.*, being all to be accounted for by the state of the foreign markets, while the diminution of the export of oil, amounting to 342,000*l.* is due to the bad harvest in the Southern Provinces. The decrease, on the contrary, in corks, amounting to 940,000*l.*, and in dried fruits to 202,000*l.*, is exclusively laid to the charge of the civil war.

Value of imports in 1873-74.

The value of the imports, which amounted in the first eleven months of 1873 to 12,550,000*l.*, reached, in 1874, 15,280,000*l.* A considerable increase is observable during this period in the imports of tools and manufactured iron, over 50 per cent.; of raw cotton, over 40 per cent.; of yarn and tissues of hemp and flax, about 12 per cent; of raw and manufactured wool, about 70 per cent.; of paper, 100 per cent.; of timber about 50 per cent.; of hides and skins, nearly 50 per cent. The importation of wheat increased during the whole year from 70,155 kilog. to 15,484,451 kilog., the increase on the first eleven months representing the difference between 69,000 in 1873, and 10,000,000 in 1874, obviously due to the civil war as well as to the bad harvest in the Eastern Provinces. The increase in the importation of dried cod fish and stock fish was but slight, being from 34,500,000 kilog. in 1873, to 39,000,000 kilog. in 1874.

Increase in various articles.

Great increase in import of wheat.

Raw cotton in November showed a reduction of 1,084,919 kilog., and in December of 534,303 kilog; manufactured cotton, of 1,671 kilog. in November, and of 12,551 kilog. in December; yarns, of 82,142 kilog. in November, and of 125,551 kilog. in December; of hides and skins, of 109,976 kilog. in November, and of 386,855 kilog. in December.

Decrease in import of cotton in December.

The importation of grain and cereals which had been constantly increasing throughout the year, continued to increase in December.

Increase of imports of cereals in December.

In sugar a reduction is observable throughout the year.

Decrease in sugar.

The number of ships of all classes imported, as well as their gross tonnage, is smaller, by one half, in 1874 than in 1873.

In ships, boats, &c.

(Signed) E. C. H. PHIPPS.

Madrid, March 24, 1875.

United States.

Report by Mr. Watson on the Trade, &c., of the United States for the year 1874.

It may be of use, for facility of reference, if I give a list of the States and Territories of the Union, as they at present stand, with the respective capitals, areas, and populations of the States, and the capitals of the respective territories.

States (38).	Area.	Population, 1870.	Capitals.
	Sq. Miles.		
Alabama ..	50,722	996,992	Montgomery.
Arkansas ..	52,198	484,471	Little Rock.
California ..	188,981	560,247	Sacramento.
Connecticut ..	4,750	537,454	Hartford.
Delaware ..	2,120	125,015	Dover.
Florida.. ..	59,248	187,748	Tallahassee.
Georgia ..	58,000	1,184,109	Atlanta.
Illinois.. ..	55,410	2,539,891	Springfield.
Indiana ..	33,809	1,680,637	Indianapolis.
Iowa	55,045	1,194,020	Des Moines.
Kansas.. ..	81,318	364,399	Topeka.
Kentucky ..	37,630	1,321,011	Frankfort.
Louisiana ..	41,346	726,915	New Orleans.
Maine	35,000	626,915	Augusta.
Maryland ..	11,124	780,894	Annapolis.
Massachusetts ..	7,800	1,457,351	Boston.
Michigan ..	56,451	1,184,059	Lansing.
Minnesota ..	83,531	439,706	St. Paul.
Mississippi ..	47,156	827,922	Jackson.
Missouri ..	65,350	1,721,295	Jefferson City.
Nebraska ..	75,995	122,993	Lincoln.
Nevada ..	81,539	42,491	Carson City.
New Hampshire..	9,280	318,300	Concord.
New Jersey ..	8,320	906,006	Trenton.
New York ..	47,000	4,382,759	Albany.
North Carolina ..	50,704	1,071,361	Raleigh.
Ohio	39,964	2,665,260	Columbus.
Oregon.. ..	95,274	90,923	Salem.
Pennsylvania ..	46,000	3,521,951	Harrisburg.
Rhode Island ..	1,306	217,353	Newport and Providence.
South Carolina ..	34,000	705,606	Columbia.

States (38).	Area.	Population, 1870.	Capitals.
	Sq. miles.		
Tennessee ..	45,600	1,258,520	Nashville.
Texas	274,356	818,579	Austin.
Vermont ..	10,212	330,551	Montpelier.
Virginia ..	38,352	1,225,163	Richmond.
West Virginia ..	23,000	442,014	Charleston.
Wisconsin ..	53,924	1,054,670	Madison.
Total ..	1,961,815	38,115,641	
Not including—			
Colorado ..	..	..	Denver.

Territories.	Capitals.
Alaska	Sitka.
Arizona	Tucson.
Dakotah	Yankton.
Idaho	Boise City.
Indian	Tahlaquah.
Montana	Virginia City.
New Mexico	Santa Fé.
Utah	Salt Lake City.
Washington	Olympia.
Wyoming	Cheyenne.

Colorado was admitted into the Union as a State on the 3rd of March, 1875, thus making the States of the Union 38 in number. It may give a general idea of the extent of the United States, if it be remembered that the States of the Union (not including Colorado nor the ten territories) cover an area about nine and a-half times as great as that of France, and more than sixteen times as great as that of the United Kingdom. Inclusive of Colorado and the ten territories, the area of the United States is seventeen times that of France, and thirty times that of Great Britain and Ireland.

Exports and Imports.

The comparative coin value of the exports and imports of the United States for the last fiscal year, as appears from official returns to the Bureau of Statistics, may be exhibited as follows :—

	Dollars.
Exports of domestic merchandize	569,433,421
Exports of foreign merchandize	16,849,619
Total exports	586,283,040
Imports	567,406,342
Excess of exports over imports ..	18,876,698
Exports of specie and bullion	66,630,405
Imports of specie and bullion	28,454,906
Excess of exports over imports ..	38,175,499
Total excess of exports of merchandize, specie, and bullion, over imports of same	57,052,197

While these returns are believed to be reasonably accurate as regards the exports by sea, it has been found impracticable to obtain complete statements of United States' exports to Canada, owing to the fact that manifests, containing the quantities and values of merchandise exported in railway cars, are not legally requirable. Detailed statements have been received, however, from the Commissioner of Customs of the Dominion of Canada, from which it appears that the coin value of United States' exports to Canada during the last fiscal year was 10,200,059 dollars in excess of that returned by the United States' Customs Officers, which would increase the exports for the fiscal year, as above stated, by that amount.

It is proper to remark that merchandize of the value of 17,878,225 dollars was withdrawn from bond for consumption, in excess of that entered for warehouse, during the year.

The export of coin and bullion was 24,952,138 dollars less than for the preceding year, while the exports of domestic merchandize have increased by 63,803,118 dollars.

There appears to have been a decrease in importations for the last year of 74,729,868 dollars as compared with the previous fiscal year, and of 59,188,735 dollars as compared with the fiscal year ended June 30, 1872.

The following imports show an increase in value, respectively :—

	Dollars.
Coffee	10,941,570
Molasses	1,046,773

	Dollars.
Salt	556,127
Flax seed	447,229
Brass and other metals	475,439
Medicinal barks	418,436
Coal	410,762
Hair	408,826
Raw hemp	328,994
Indigo and cochineal	353,474
Unmanufactured wood	384,810
Articles exported and returned	1,287,622
Opium	561,726
Spices	586,642
Barley	2,838,672
Dress goods	1,714,838

Those exhibiting a decrease in importation are principally—

	Dollars,
Unmanufactured wool	12,183,632
Manufactures of wool	4,149,298
Raw silk	2,606,613
Manufactures of silk	5,893,253
Fine linen, laces, and other manufactures of flax	2,955,636
Cotton goods	7,007,455
Kid gloves, leather, and manufactures of leather	1,107,528
Furs	379,427
Hides and skins	1,281,565
Jute and jute butts	1,471,727
Paper stock	1,058,297
Paper and paper hangings	734,872
Horsehair	792,675
Old and scrap iron	5,148,370
Copper ingots	2,347,626
Manufactures of copper	887,836
Pig and bar lead	1,094,240
Tin plates	2,000,727
Watches	900,531
Jewellery and precious stones	876,997
Fancy goods and perfumery	468,986
Tobacco, snuff, and cigars	1,304,002
Wines and liquors	622,000
Fruit and nuts	1,392,004
Sugar	829,490
Tea	3,350,860
Dutiable chemicals	873,711
Chemicals, drugs, and dyes	1,444,919
Dye woods, madder, argols, bleaching powder, and nitrate of soda	713,083
Soda ash	928,448
Earthen, stone, and china ware	1,133,570
Common window glass and glassware	1,399,341
Lumber	2,694,327
Crude indiarubber and gutta percha	703,821

There was a falling off in the importation of iron and steel, and their products of 20,366,536 dollars in value, upon the following articles :—

	Dollars.
Rails	8,982,267
Steel and manufactures of steel	3,324,513
Pig iron	3,915,747
Bar iron	2,266,170
Sheet, hoop, and band iron	1,169,308
Machinery	400,192
Anchors, chains, cables, castings, and hardware	308,339

There was also a decrease in the importation of live animals of 702,381 dollars, and of provisions of 849,331 dollars in value.

Of domestic products exported, the following articles show an increase in value, in currency :—

	Dollars.
Wheat	49,969,205
Wheat flour	9,876,430
Rye and rye flour	1,440,999
Corn and corn meal	1,029,829
Cheese	1,400,985
Butter	139,462
Pork	801,677
Beef and tallow	1,576,044
Fish	603,712
Leaf tobacco	7,710,046
Oil cake	487,798
Horned cattle	454,900
Hogs	838,435
Agricultural implements	503,839
Timber, wood, and manufactures of wood	2,233,919
Coal	909,675
Manufactures of hemp	691,021
Iron and manufactures of iron	846,197
Firearms	1,158,269
Sailing-vessels sold to foreigners	371,407

The decrease in the exportation of domestic products appears principally in the following articles :—

	Dollars.
Raw cotton	16,019,489
Bacon, hams and lard	3,576,025
Hides	1,044,641
Furs and fur-skins	391,185
Leather and manufactures of leather	518,976
Sewing machines	556,424
Crude mineral oil	910,354
Crude turpentine and rosin	585,565
Silver ore	969,303

Commerce and Navigation.

Little improvement is observable in the foreign carrying trade. Over 72 per cent. of the imports and exports, during the last fiscal year, was carried in foreign vessels. This ratio is, however, a somewhat better exhibit than for the fiscal year 1872, when 76 per cent. of this trade was transported in vessels of other nations. It is estimated that, prior to 1860, from 75 to 80 per cent. was done in vessels of the United States.

From the Report of the Register of the Treasury, the total tonnage of vessels of the United States appears to be 4,800,652 tons, being an increase over that of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1873, of 104,626 tons, notwithstanding the omission from the official returns, under the Act of April 18, 1874, of canal-boat tonnage amounting to 133,065 tons.

The tonnage of vessels built during the last fiscal year, as given in the Report of the Register, is 432,725 tons; which amount exceeds that of the preceding year by 73,479 tons, and is greater than that of any year since 1855.

From July 1 to November 10, 1874, official numbers have been awarded by the Bureau of Statistics to 684 vessels, whose carrying capacity amounts to 169,654 tons. Of these, 213 were new sea-going vessels, varying from 100 to 5,000 tons, with an aggregate tonnage of 120,972 tons. Of this number, twenty-nine vessels measured over 1,000 tons, three over 2,000 tons, while two were iron steamships of 5,008 tons each.

The following Tables show a statement of the imports into, and exports from the United States for the year 1874, as compared with those of 1873; and likewise the gross tonnage for the former year.

Table showing Tonnage of the United States in 1874.

	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Sailing-vessels	..	..	17,226	2,257,154·23
Steam-vessels	..	..	3,958	1,116,425·42
Unrigged vessels	..	..	7,803	890,858·07
Ditto reported June 30, 1873 ..	10,739	1,222,303·81	..	..
Ditto reported June 30, 1874 ..	7,803	890,858·07	..	..
Unrigged vessels not reported .	..	..	2,936	331,445·74
Aggregate	..	..	31,923	4,595,883·46

Summary by States and Coasts.

States and Coasts.	Vessels.	Tons.
Maine	3,221	565,842·59
New Hampshire	62	11,370·18
Massachusetts	2,563	458,373·10
Rhode Island	274	36,265·55
Connecticut	836	96,317·44
New Jersey	1,124	94,689·34
New York	5,051	1,026,023·56
Pennsylvania	2,935	363,542·18
Delaware	197	13,533·88
Maryland	1,993	142,267·65
District of Columbia	472	28,196·50
Virginia	892	22,623·54
North Carolina	279	7,408·91
South Carolina	195	8,142·43
Georgia	63	9,291·84
Florida	237	9,588·76
Alabama	99	7,909·41
Mississippi	94	3,368·56
Louisiana	572	50,961·71
Texas	306	11,998·27
Total on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts	21,465	2,967,715·30
Total on the Western rivers	1,564	373,464·59
Total on the Northern lakes	4,833	758,838·84
Total on the Pacific coast	1,125	164,418·99
	28,987	4,264,437·72
Unrigged vessels not reported	2,936	331,446·00
Aggregate in 1874	31,923	4,595,883·72
Aggregate in 1873	31,684	4,468,046·81
Increase in 1874 over 1873	239	127,836·91

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Imports for the Fiscal Years ended June 30, 1874, and 1873.

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Free of Duty.			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Argols	lbs.	3,246,376	461,280	4,007,779	578,247	..	116,967
Articles the produce or manufacture of the United States, brought back	..	..	4,093,684	..	2,806,062	1,287,622	..
Barks—							
Barks, medicinal—Peruvian, calisaya, Lima, &c.	lbs.	5,512,592	1,375,252	4,430,910	956,816	418,436	..
Barks used for tanning	..	..	194,319	..	157,689	36,630	..
Cork, bark, and wood, unmanufactured	..	..	435,909	..	645,891	..	209,982
Bolting-cloths	..	..	155,815	..	111,554	44,261	..
Books, not elsewhere specified	..	..	343,408	..	323,002	20,406	..
Camphor, crude	lbs.	780,737	109,576	1,117,930	151,376	..	41,800
Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines, n. e. s.	..	..	3,344,778	..	4,789,697	..	1,444,919
Chloride of lime or bleaching-powder	lbs.	40,075,273	1,025,156	39,362,558	1,102,360	..	77,204
Cocoa, crude, and leaves and shells of	..	3,626,822	400,802	4,947,393	613,126	..	212,324
Cochineal	..	1,770,277	932,283	1,136,523	678,808	253,475	..
Coffee	..	285,171,512	55,048,967	293,284,201	44,107,397	10,941,570	..
Cotton, raw	..	3,625,830	704,784	4,425,524	846,564	..	144,780
Cutch and terra-japonica	..	18,999,951	742,525	20,925,672	743,702	..	1,177
Dye-woods, in sticks	..	772,067	577,628	1,238,417	884,350	..	306,722
Eggs	doz.	5,601,175	747,866	5,065,577	683,850	64,016	..
Fish, not of American fisheries—							
Fresh, of all kinds	lbs.	9,587,595	294,837	8,636,279	278,921	15,916	..
Herring, pickled	bbls.	51,423	181,521	..	..	181,521	..
Mackerel, pickled	..	89,503	800,920	..	..	800,920	..
All other, n. e. s.	..	..	553,949	..	..	553,949	..
Fur-skins, undressed	..	..	848,215	..	979,589	..	131,374
Gold and silver—							
Gold bullion	..	..	1,614,669	..	1,542,593	72,076	..

Silver bullion	..	837,683	..	471,715	365,968	..
Gold coin	..	17,888,468	..	7,139,854	10,748,614	..
Silver coin	..	8,114,086	..	12,326,775	..	4,212,689
Guano	tons	12,296	290,599	6,807	177,709	112,890	..
Gums	lbs.	10,796,306	1,795,019	13,533,597	1,733,665	61,354	..
Gypsum, or plaster of Paris, unground	tons	123,172	130,192	120,446	121,451	8,741	..
Hair, unmanufactured—							
Horsehair, used for weaving	lbs.	732,042	293,852	2,797,371	1,086,527	..	792,675
Hair of all kinds, n. e. s.	,,	2,927,253	632,356	1,348,673	223,530	408,826	..
Hides and skins, other than furs	..	..	16,444,877	..	16,248,421	196,456	..
Household and personal effects of persons arriving from abroad	..	..	887,874	..	1,207,890	..	320,016
Indiarubber and gutta percha, crude	lbs.	14,191,320	6,196,729	14,536,978	6,900,550	..	703,821
Indigo	,,	1,131,630	980,880	1,077,174	880,881	99,999	..
Jute butts	tons	27,192	687,399	35,360	1,197,773	..	510,374
Madder	lbs.	5,648,477	694,955	8,554,964	792,556	..	97,601
Oils, not elsewhere specified—							
Whale or fish, not of American fisheries	galls.	165,448	91,944	..	..	91,944	..
Vegetable, fixed or expressed	,,	997,300	436,073	1,238,314	482,696	..	46,623
Volatile or essential	lbs.	301,378	435,706	333,433	476,029	..	40,323
Paintings, statuary, &c., of American artists	..	..	267,409	..	237,389	30,020	..
Paper materials—							
Rags of cotton or linen	lbs.	94,176,438	3,961,386	95,868,930	4,054,867	..	93,481
Other materials, n. e. s.	,,	21,790,412	707,362	42,351,616	1,672,178	..	964,816
Seeds	..	..	175,799	..	287,925	..	112,126
Silk, raw	lbs.	794,837	3,854,008	1,159,420	6,460,621	..	2,606,613
Soda, nitrate of	,,	61,978,316	1,338,141	61,366,373	1,452,730	..	114,589
Sulphur or brimstone, crude	tons	41,539	1,260,140	45,340	1,300,626	..	40,486
Tea	lbs.	55,811,605	21,112,234	64,315,116	24,466,094	..	3,353,860
Tin, in bars, blocks, and pigs	cwts.	114,952	3,180,769	91,166	2,914,481	266,288	..
Wood, unmanufactured, n. e. s.	..	..	2,262,441	..	1,877,631	384,810	..
All other articles	..	..	9,990,144	..	7,122,663	2,867,481	..
Total free of duty	..	..	179,936,668	..	166,296,821	30,334,189	16,694,342
Total increase	..	..	..	..	..	13,639,847	..

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Dutiable.							
Animals, living		..	2,627,502	..	3,329,883	..	702,381
Beer, ale, porter, and other malt liquors	galls.	2,088,958	1,752,559	2,289,053	1,827,763	..	75,204
Books, pamphlets, engravings, &c., n. e. s.		..	2,509,877	..	2,574,123	..	64,246
Brass, and manufactures of		..	355,062	..	221,425	133,637	..
Breadstuffs, &c.—							
Barley	bush.	4,891,189	5,801,653	4,244,751	2,962,981	2,838,672	..
Barley-malt	,,	245,640	291,350	278,737	226,752	64,598	..
Bread and biscuit	lbs.	429,185	63,515	679,976	92,820	..	29,305
Indian corn or maize	bush.	76,003	61,268	61,536	53,767	7,501	..
Oats	,,	191,802	75,262	225,555	72,916	2,346	..
Rice	lbs.	73,257,716	2,083,248	83,755,225	2,304,696	..	221,448
Rye	bush.	164,153	129,386	214,102	151,418	..	22,032
Wheat	,,	1,646,092	2,114,194	1,476,594	2,052,994	61,200	..
Wheat-flour	bbls.	94,137	561,648	72,891	453,478	108,170	..
Meal, corn, rye, and buckwheat	..	..	135,775	..	141,985	..	6,210
Peas, beans, &c.	bush.	612,273	530,150	324,170	309,227	220,923	..
All other farinaceous food	..	..	100,200	..	99,148	1,112	..
Bristles	lbs.	522,006	645,102	632,203	811,322	..	166,220
Buttons and button materials	..	..	2,122,037	..	2,538,275	..	416,238
Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines, n. e. s.	..	..	5,412,054	..	6,285,765	..	873,711
Chicory, ground and root	lbs.	3,662,486	146,593	3,173,997	128,995	17,598	..
Chloride of lime or bleaching powder	,,	..	..	2,686,288	76,756	..	76,756
Clothing (except hosiery, &c.)—							
Cut and sewed together	..	..	1,562,085	..	1,835,786	..	273,701
Articles of wear, n. e. s.	..	..	381,543	..	599,282	..	217,739
Coal, bituminous	tons	498,028	1,950,425	456,015	1,539,663	410,762	..
Cocoa, manufactured	lbs.	35,170	7,078	786,963	112,150	..	105,072
Coffee	,,	..	..	13,070	2,274	..	2,274

Copper, and manufactures of—								
Ore	cwts.	5,461	71,111	15,900	57,950	13,161	..	
Pigs, bars, ingots, &c.	lbs.	1,544,600	287,978	13,156,456	2,635,604	..	2,347,626	
Manufactures of	..	..	163,656	..	1,051,492	..	887,836	
Cordage, rope, and twine of all kinds	lbs.	1,633,734	204,091	2,066,439	279,756	..	75,665	
Cotton, manufactures of—								
Bleached and unbleached	sq. yds.	26,361,166	3,093,333	31,152,540	3,865,558	..	771,625	
Printed, painted, or coloured	,,	23,380,235	3,155,494	33,355,661	5,028,256	..	1,872,762	
Hosiery, shirts, and drawers	..	..	4,621,259	..	5,449,208	..	827,949	
Jeans, denims, drillings, &c.	sq. yds.	2,220,653	327,138	3,685,477	536,393	..	209,255	
Other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	..	16,996,045	..	20,321,909	..	3,325,864	
Earthen, stone, and china wares	..	..	4,882,355	..	6,015,925	..	1,133,570	
Fancy goods	..	..	4,518,987	..	4,861,208	..	342,221	
Fish, not of American fisheries—								
Herring	bbls.	31,128	253,044	68,692	359,262	..	106,218	
Mackerel	,,	190	1,550	90,889	610,457	..	608,907	
Sardines and anchovies preserved	..	..	991,030	..	1,172,704	..	181,674	
All other, n. e. s.	..	..	131,676	..	663,913	..	532,237	
Flax, and manufactures of*—								
Flax, raw	tons	3,426	942,038	4,171	1,137,737	..	195,699	
Manufactures of, by yard	..	..	14,081,428	..	16,271,590	..	2,190,162	
Other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	..	3,391,327	..	4,156,801	..	765,474	
Fruits of all kinds, including nuts	..	..	8,281,418	..	9,673,462	..	1,392,044	
Furs and dressed fur-skins	..	..	2,531,073	..	2,910,500	..	379,427	
Glass and glassware—								
Cylinder, crown, or common window	lbs.	35,552,349	1,881,368	51,765,352	2,759,728	..	878,360	
Cylinder and crown polished	sq. ft.	46,364	14,933	60,038	21,217	..	6,284	
Fluted, rolled, or rough plate	,,	635,314	34,237	750,413	34,180	57	..	
Cast polished plate, not silvered	,,	2,006,185	1,655,909	2,482,359	1,550,857	105,052	..	
Cast polished plate, silvered	,,	2,604,331	961,512	2,392,274	823,076	138,436	..	
Other manufactures of	..	..	1,710,005	..	2,230,986	..	520,981	
X Hair, and manufactures of—								
Hair, human, and manufactures of	..	..	897,693	..	932,026	..	34,333	
Hair, other, and manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	..	331,707	..	419,512	..	87,805	

* Including brown hollands, burlaps, canvas, coatings, crash, diaper, duck, handkerchiefs, huckabacks, lawns, paddings, and all like manufactures of which flax shall be the material of chief value.

Commodities.	Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
		Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Hemp, and manufactures of*—						
Raw .. .. tons	24,525	3,676,967	20,573	3,347,973	328,994	..
Manufactures of, by yard .. .. .. sq. yds.	75,301	12,152	212,651	40,414	..	28,262
Other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	102,032	..	231,707	..	129,675
Hides and skins, other than furs, n. e. s.	..	..	..	1,150,191	..	1,150,191
Indiarubber and gutta-percha, manufactures of	..	803,830	..	900,187	..	96,357
Iron and steel, and manufactures of—						
Pig iron .. .. lbs.	206,173,041	3,288,022	482,711,889	7,203,769	..	3,915,747
Castings .. .. ,,	430,052	15,905	729,674	32,113	..	16,208
Bar iron .. .. ,,	77,031,538	3,022,311	166,016,035	5,288,481	..	2,266,170
Boiler iron .. .. ,,	154,733	11,177	1,174,165	55,030	..	43,853
Band, hoop, and scroll iron .. .. ,,	6,015,950	200,574	25,660,711	846,973	..	646,399
Railroad bars or rails, of iron .. .. ,,	40,759,006	987,260	481,009,481	10,541,036	..	9,553,776
Sheet iron .. .. ,,	12,333,734	808,016	29,887,646	1,287,072	..	479,056
Old and scrap iron .. .. .. tons	51,366	1,495,142	204,078	6,643,512	..	5,148,370
Hardware	..	265,678	..	371,518	..	105,840
Anchors, cables, and chains, of all kinds .. lbs.	6,997,978	437,582	11,599,462	675,184	..	237,602
Machinery	..	1,293,774	..	1,693,966	..	400,192
Muskets, pistols, rifles, and sporting guns	..	873,430	..	822,119	51,311	..
Steel ingots, bars, sheets, and wire	..	2,960,055	..	4,155,234	..	1,195,179
Railroad bars or rails, of steel .. .. lbs.	292,821,945	9,771,175	320,083,100	9,199,666	571,509	..
Cutlery	..	1,586,194	..	2,234,355	..	648,161
Files	..	575,211	..	770,986	..	195,775
Saws and tools	..	48,210	..	265,637	..	217,427
Other manufactures of iron and steel, n. e. s. ..	..	6,153,830	..	7,221,801	..	1,067,971
Jewellery, and all manufactures of gold and silver, n. e. s. .	..	849,130	..	1,130,227	..	281,097
Jute and other grasses, and manufactures of*—						
Raw .. .. tons	9,799	1,006,618	27,969	1,967,971	..	961,353
Manufactures of, by yard .. .. .. sq. yds.	6,411	1,462	89,102	16,690	..	15,228

* Except articles specified in the note to "Flax, and manufactures of."

Gunny cloth and gunny bags, and manufactures of .. .. lbs.	6,391,413	341,148	9,589,503	404,851	..	63,703
Other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	1,966,057	..	2,654,430	..	88,373
Lead, and manufactures of—						
Pigs, bars, and old .. .. .. lbs.	43,513,017	2,128,387	71,371,692	3,222,627	..	1,094,240
Manufactures of	..	36,401	..	24,526	11,875	..
Leather, and manufactures of—						
Leather of all kinds .. .. .. lbs.	9,379,659	6,138,528	10,347,669	6,766,202	..	627,674
Gloves of skin or leather .. .. doz. pairs	524,434	3,319,293	555,919	3,570,911	..	251,618
Other manufactures of	..	813,765	..	1,042,001	..	228,236
Marble and stone, and manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	1,246,692	..	1,099,280	147,412	..
Metals, metal compositions, and manufactures of, n. e. s. ..	..	1,289,601	..	947,799	341,802	..
Musical instruments	..	870,348	..	1,026,028	..	155,680
Oils—						
Coal and other mineral oils .. .. galls.	434,980	81,327	1,099,769	193,925	..	112,598
Whale and fish, not of American fisheries .. ,,	226,528	121,927	220,612	106,249	15,678	..
Olive, salad .. .. ,,	139,241	261,224	182,818	327,360	..	66,136
Olive, not salad .. .. ,,	118,453	84,551	157,219	118,414	..	33,863
All other vegetable, fixed .. .. .. ,,	313,301	180,236	290,332	149,511	30,725	..
Volatile or essential .. .. .. lbs.	139,415	335,728	165,826	393,107	..	57,379
Opium, and extract of .. .. .. ,,	395,909	2,540,228	319,134	1,978,502	561,726	..
Paintings, chromos, photographs, and statuary, n. e. s. ..	..	1,169,878	..	1,352,275	..	182,397
Paints—						
White lead .. .. lbs.	4,765,868	322,611	6,218,674	406,338	..	83,727
Red lead and litharge .. .. .. ,,	502,493	35,703	1,591,194	102,856	..	67,153
Whiting and Paris white .. .. .. ,,	3,351,947	19,726	6,850,784	35,473	..	15,747
Other paints and painters' colours	..	709,095	..	971,783	..	262,688
Paper, and manufactures of—						
Printing paper .. .. lbs.	3,510,547	288,121	6,892,127	546,765	..	258,644
Writing paper	..	103,160	..	181,555	..	78,395
Paper-hangings and other paper	..	200,331	..	598,140	..	397,809
Papier-maché, and other manufactures of paper, n. e. s. ..	..	1,028,357	..	1,028,381	..	24
Perfumery and cosmetics	..	348,500	..	475,265	..	126,765
Potatoes .. .. bush.	549,073	331,370	346,840	209,294	122,076	..
Precious stones	..	2,274,790	..	2,870,690	..	595,900
Provisions (meats, poultry, lard, butter, cheese, &c.) ..	..	1,747,442	..	2,375,325	..	627,883

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Salt	lbs.	929,373,573	2,339,311	778,273,855	1,783,184	556,127	..
Saltpetre (nitrate of potash)	,,	12,121,447	550,463	10,489,395	502,394	48,069	..
Seeds—							
Flax-seed or linseed	bush.	2,648,321	4,301,690	2,453,428	3,854,461	447,229	..
All other, n. e. s.	..	..	351,736	..	340,453	11,283	..
Silk, manufactures of—							
Dress and piece goods	..	..	15,618,976	..	17,509,442	..	1,890,466
Hosiery	..	..	73,618	..	54,168	19,450	..
Other manufactures of	..	..	8,304,188	..	12,326,425	..	4,022,237
Soda, and salts of—							
Bicarbonate	lbs.	12,718,072	464,217	11,076,528	390,987	73,230	..
Carbonate, including soda ash	,,	186,515,578	4,076,629	206,116,776	5,005,077	..	928,448
Caustic soda	,,	34,714,497	1,522,480	28,831,474	1,273,784	248,696	..
Acetate, sulphate, phosphate, and all other salts of soda, n. e. s.	,,	264,715	6,337	464,426	14,088	..	7,751
Spices of all kinds	,,	14,799,001	2,351,793	15,825,140	1,765,151	586,642	..
Straw and palm-leaf, and manufactures of	..	..	2,085,878	..	2,398,152	..	312,274
Sugar and molasses—							
Brown sugar	lbs.	1,594,306,354	77,459,968	1,454,124,259	77,953,470	..	493,502
Refined sugar	,,	39,279	3,139	509,504	41,318	..	38,179
Molasses	galls.	47,189,837	10,947,824	43,533,909	9,901,051	1,046,773	..
Melado and syrup of sugar-cane	lbs.	106,952,236	4,424,356	113,670,829	4,722,165	..	297,809
Candy and confectionery	,,	56,443	13,916	89,285	20,219	..	6,303
Sulphur, refined	cwts.	1,709	4,129	2,117	5,180	..	1,051
Tea	lbs.	..	..	120	76	..	76
Tin and manufactures of—							
In bars, blocks, or pigs	cwts.	..	..	11,693	363,393	..	363,393
In plates	,,	1,511,776	12,992,923	1,718,620	14,993,650	..	2,000,727
Other manufactures of	..	..	71,779	..	85,129	..	13,350
Tobacco, and manufactures of—							
Leaf	lbs.	9,690,011	5,537,651	11,023,400	6,600,608	..	1,062,957

Cigars	,,	897,524	3,125,604	974,872	3,361,558	..	235,95
Other manufactures of		..	42,850	..	47,441	..	5,091
Watches, and watch movements and materials		..	2,374,294	..	3,274,825	..	900,531
Wine, spirits, and cordials—							
Spirits and cordials, in casks ..	proof galls.	1,838,749	2,048,451	2,056,067	2,109,429	..	60,978
Spirits and cordials, in bottles	doz.	112,869	543,930	157,526	697,292	..	153,362
Wine, in casks	galls.	7,839,837	3,156,979	9,836,442	3,584,766	..	427,787
Wine, in bottles	doz.	419,422	2,887,109	455,260	2,866,982	20,127	..
Wood, and manufactures of—							
Cabinet-ware, house-furniture, and all manufactures of wood, n. e. s.	..	..	1,209,857	..	1,494,803	..	284,946
Boards, deals, plank, joists, and scantling ..	M. ft.	562,395	6,764,314	818,302	9,458,641	..	2,694,327
Shingles	M.	109,245	273,490	108,448	243,404	30,086	..
Timber, sawed or hewn, wholly or in part ..	..	..	229,047	..	192,545	36,502	..
Other lumber	..	..	476,816	..	399,632	77,184	..
Wool, sheep's, and hair of the alpaca goat and other like animals, and manufactures of—							
Unmanufactured	lbs.	42,939,541	8,250,306	85,496,049	20,433,938	..	12,183,632
Cloths and cassimeres	..	..	13,016,671	..	15,893,827	..	2,877,156
Woollen rags, shoddy, mungo, flocks, &c. ..	lbs.	1,783,677	151,156	1,989,123	199,687	..	48,531
Shawls	..	..	2,181,887	..	2,830,942	..	649,055
Blankets	..	..	13,472	..	7,947	5,525	..
Carpets	sq. yds.	3,122,503	3,649,863	3,915,797	4,388,257	..	738,394
Dress-goods	,,	72,353,799	21,162,635	65,121,095	19,447,797	1,714,838	..
Hosiery, shirts, and drawers	..	..	505,109	..	612,717	..	107,608
Other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	..	6,202,395	..	7,694,818	..	1,491,923
Zinc, spelter, or tutenag, and manufactures of—							
In blocks or pigs	lbs.	2,254,802	125,630	6,336,736	329,022	..	203,392
In sheets	lbs.	4,431,733	322,214	9,453,072	621,776	..	299,562
All articles not elsewhere enumerated	..	..	5,294,117	..	5,914,169	..	620,052
Total	..	..	..	..	..	11,228,094	92,623,840
Total dutiable	..	..	415,924,580	..	497,320,326	..	81,395,746
Total free of duty	..	..	179,936,668	..	166,296,821	13,639,847	..
Total imports	..	..	595,861,248	..	663,617,147	..	67,755,899

Commodities.	Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
		Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Entered for immediate consumption	..	411,629,504	..	433,514,716	..	21,885,212
Entered for warehouse	..	177,494,432	..	220,460.125	..	42.965.693
Entered for immediate transportation	..	6,737,312	..	9,642,306	..	2,904.994
Imported in cars and other land vehicles	..	14,513,335	..	17,070,548	..	2,557,213
Imported in American vessels	..	176,027,778	..	174,739,834	1,287,944	..
Imported in foreign vessels	..	405,320,135	..	471,806,765	..	66,486,630

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of Domestic Exports for the Fiscal Years ended June 30, 1874, and 1873.

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Acids	lbs.	1,904,352	66,423	1,730,423	68,689	..	2,266
Agricultural implements—							
Fanning-mills	No.	63	2,645	72	2,144	501	..
Horse-powers	,,	59	30,685	61	11,252	19,433	..
Mowers and reapers	,,	16,139	1,797,130	9,728	1,243,933	553,197	..
Ploughs and cultivators	,,	17,639	236,203	33,133	444,163	..	207,960
All other, n. e. s.	..	..	1,023,090	..	884,422	138,668	..
Animals, living—							
Hogs	No.	158,581	1,625,837	99,720	787,402	838,435	..
Horned cattle	,,	56,067	1,150,857	35,455	695,957	454,900	..
Horses	,,	1,432	169,303	2,814	255,364	..	86,062
Mules	,,	1,252	174,125	1,659	172,172	1,953	..
Sheep	,,	124,248	159,735	66,717	107,698	52,037	..
All other and fowls	..	..	30,531	..	14,853	15,678	..

Ashes, pot and pearl	lbs.	1,502,626	116,766	1,007,753	88,562	28,204	..	
Bark, for tanning	..	..	160,670	..	168,939	..	8,269	
Beer, ale, porter, and cider—								
In bottles	doz.	2,897	6,245	3,443	7,712	..	1,467	
In casks	galls.	99,135	33,357	103,009	36,743	..	3,386	
Bells, and bell and bronze metal	..	..	8,433	..	7,637	796	..	
Billiard-tables and apparatus	..	..	48,799	..	25,857	22,942	..	
Blacking	..	..	67,897	..	108,144	..	40,157	
Bones and bone-dust	cwts.	47,868	108,440	100,185	167,135	..	58,695	
Bone-black, ivory-black, and lamp-black	lbs.	903,823	58,121	1,392,150	39,307	18,814	..	
Books, pamphlets, maps, &c.	..	..	584,930	..	893,228	..	308,298	
Brass, and manufactures of	..	..	503,531	..	494,575	8,956	..	
Bread and breadstuffs—								
Barley	bush.	320,399	210,738	482,410	323,187	..	112,449	
Bread and biscuit	lbs.	11,142,439	676,197	11,700,767	690,832	..	14,635	
Indian corn	bush.	34,434,606	24,769,951	38,541,930	23,794,694	975,257	..	
Indian-corn-meal	bbls.	387,807	1,529,399	403,111	1,474,827	54,572	..	
Oats	bush.	812,873	383,762	714,072	290,575	93,187	..	
Rye	,,	1,564,484	1,568,362	562,021	469,547	1,098,815	..	
Rye-flour	bbls.	59,820	388,313	8,288	46,129	342,184	..	
Wheat	bush.	71,039,928	101,421,459	39,204,285	51,452,254	49,969,205	..	
Wheat-flour	bbls.	4,094,094	29,258,094	2,561,086	19,381,664	9,876,430	..	
Other small grain and pulse	..	..	670,146	..	394,890	275,256	..	
Maizena, farina, &c.	..	..	322,443	..	424,552	..	102,109	
Bricks	M.	1,347	11,290	1,219	10,632	658	..	
Brooms and brushes	..	..	127,593	..	186,819	..	59,226	
Candles, tallow and other	lbs.	1,995,093	302,277	1,998,557	301,202	1,075	..	
Carriages, carts, and parts of	..	..	541,884	..	506,827	35,057	..	
Cars, railroad, passenger, and freight	No.	1,083	1,151,898	1,146	1,145,067	6,831	..	
Clocks, and parts of	..	..	1,007,507	..	868,888	138,619	..	
Coffee, cocoa, and spices	..	..	20,337	..	31,791	..	11,454	
Coal—								
Bituminous	tons	361,490	1,587,666	242,453	1,086,253	501,413	..	
Anthracite	,,	401,912	2,236,084	342,180	1,827,822	408,262	..	
Combs	..	..	7,535	..	8,244	..	709	

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Copper, and manufactures of—							
Ore	cwts.	13,326	110,450	45,252	170,365	..	59,915
In pigs, bars, sheets, and old	lbs.	503,160	123,457	38,958	10,423	113,034	..
Other manufactures of	..	..	233,301	..	78,288	155,013	..
Cordage, rope, and twine of all kinds	lbs.	1,604,332	242,923	2,625,529	417,044	..	174,121
Cotton, and manufactures of—							
Sea-island	lbs.	6,426,524	2,114,124	5,693,909	2,350,687	..	236,563
Other, unmanufactured	,,	1,352,175,779	209,109,456	1,194,369,621	224,892,382	..	15,782,926
Coloured	yards	4,625,180	668,781	3,585,629	596,912	71,869	..
Uncoloured	,,	13,247,142	1,681,209	10,187,145	1,655,116	26,093	..
All other manufactures of, n. e. s.	..	..	745,850	..	695,500	50,350	..
Drugs, chemicals, and medicines, n. e. s.	..	..	2,252,533	..	2,358,730	..	106,197
Dyestuffs	..	..	478,139	..	715,104	..	236,965
Earthen and stone ware	..	..	59,494	..	53,909	5,585	..
Fancy articles, n. e. s.	..	..	302,548	..	358,514	..	55,966
Fruits—							
Apples, dried	lbs.	4,234,736	294,893	4,483,186	272,028	22,865	..
Apples, green or ripe	bush.	123,552	204,312	664,576	819,664	..	615 352
Other fruit, green, ripe, or dried	..	..	211,308	..	292,935	..	81,627
Preserved	..	..	283,649	..	318,678	..	35,029
Furs and fur skins	..	..	3,334,365	..	3,725,550	..	391,185
Gas fixtures and chandeliers	..	..	38,817	..	58,323	..	19,506
Ginseng	lbs.	400,619	448,760	350,141	341,144	107,616	..
Glass and glassware	..	..	631,827	..	627,562	4,265	..
Glue	lbs.	71,564	12,939	42,556	8,754	4,185	..
Gold and silver, and manufactures of—							
Gold bullion	..	..	3,878,543	..	8,810,175	..	4,931,632
Gold coin	..	..	28,766,943	..	35,661,863	..	6,894,920
Silver bullion	..	..	22,498,782	..	27,759,066	..	5,260,284
Silver coin	..	..	4,555,418	..	1,674,442	2,880,976	..
Gold and silver leaf	..	..	4,343	..	1,465	2,878	..
Jewellery, and other manufactures of gold and silver	..	..	104,707	..	109,389	..	4,682

Hair—								
Unmanufactured		394,056		334,663	59,393			
Manufactures of		33,257		48,795		15,538		
Hats, caps, and bonnets—								
Of wood, fur, and silk		151,035		158,344		7,309		
Of palm-leaf, straw, &c.		48,829		86,855		38,026		
Hay	tons	4,889	111,872	4,557	110,880	992		
Hemp, and manufactures of—								
Hemp, unmanufactured	cwts.	1,106	8,901	978	9,121		220	
Cables and cordage	"	16,239	272,612	14,960	275,100		2,488	
All other manufactures of			861,746		170,725	691,021		1,044,641
Hides and skins, other than fur			2,560,382		3,605,023			
Hoop-skirts			15,302		5,181	10,121		
Hops	lbs.	117,358	27,973	1,795,437	272,403		244,430	
Ice	tons	51,572	198,013	53,553	188,095	9,918		
Indiarubber and gutta-percha manufactures—								
Boots and shoes	pairs	8,017	33,282	7,090	23,969	9,313		
Other manufactures			192,998		190,829	2,169		
Iron and manufactures of—								
Pig	cwts.	192,834	414,728	56,327	140,683	274,045		
Bar	"	39,312	173,168	6,162	33,767	139,401		
Boiler-plate	"	2,118	13,440	742	4,589	8,851		
Railroad bars or rails	"	6,823	25,356	25,291	104,054		78,698	
Sheet, band, and hoop	"	223	11,082	1,187	6,068	5,014		
Castings			226,288		153,234	73,054		
Car-wheels	No.	11,905	189,869	7,515	137,458	52,411		
Stoves, and parts of			102,398		115,792		13,394	
Steam-engines, locomotive	No.	79	1,147,366	58	952,655	194,711		
Steam-engines, stationary	"	48	74,749	46	111,507		36,758	
Boilers for steam-engines			127,992		232,546		104,554	
Machinery, n. e. s.			3,357,909		3,120,984	236,925		
Nails and spikes	lbs.	8,078,645	410,850	5,996,913	356,990	53,860		
Other manufactures of iron			3,303,499		3,262,170	41,329		
Steel, and manufactures of—								
Ingots, bars, sheets, and wire	lbs.	675,423	26,691	18,849	3,955	22,736		
Cutlery			47,162		47,346		184	

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Edge-tools		..	941,016	..	846,452	94,564	..
Files and saws		..	21,496	..	10,171	11,325	..
Muskets, pistols, rifles, and sporting guns		..	2,340,138	..	1,181,869	1,158,269	..
Manufactures of steel, n. e. s.		..	225,457	..	297,541	..	72,084
Junk (old) and oakum	cwts.	5,997	47,109	4,585	37,986	9,123	..
Lamps		..	168,231	..	287,215	..	118,984
Lead, and manufactures of		..	302,044	..	13,392	288,652	..
Leather, and manufactures of—							
Boots and shoes	pairs	243,500	383,417	260,759	421,548	..	38,131
Leather of all kinds, n. e. s.	lbs.	15,628,285	3,940,450	17,241,746	4,365,174	..	424,724
Morocco, and other fine		..	232,884	..	247,711	..	14,827
Saddlery and harness		..	98,132	..	101,943	..	3,811
Manufactures of, n, e. s.		..	131,635	..	169,118	..	37,483
Lime and cement	bbls.	41,349	69,080	27,873	52,848	16,232	..
Manures—							
Guano	tons	90	4,325	258	8,210	..	3,885
Other manures		..	279,551	..	222,084	57,467	..
Marble and stone—							
Marble and stone, rough		..	126,669	..	96,735	29,934	..
Marble and stone manufactures		..	168,977	..	189,795	..	20,818
Matches		..	176,471	..	194,332	..	17,861
Mathematical, philosophical, and optical instruments		..	64,433	..	48,126	16,307	..
Musical instruments—							
Organs, melodeons, &c.		..	292,151	..	215,698	76,453	..
Piano-fortes		..	226,166	..	208,616	17,550	..
All other		..	32,010	..	37,163	..	5,153
Naval stores—							
Resin and turpentine	bbls.	929,342	3,046,431	845,162	3,631,996	..	585,565
Tar and pitch	„	71,920	238,779	43,535	177,435	61,344	..
Oil-cake	lbs.	215,336,330	4,099,360	194,318,946	3,611,562	487,798	..

Oils—							
Mineral, crude	galls.	17,776,419	2,099,696	18,439,407	3,010,050	..	910,354
Mineral, refined or manufactured—							
Naphthas, benzine, gasoline, &c.	,,	9,737,457	1,038,622	9,743,593	1,487,439	..	448,817
Illuminating	,,	217,220,504	37,560,945	158,102,414	37,195,735	365,210	..
Lubricating (heavy paraffine, &c.).. ..	,,	1,344,305	404,243	748,699	277,966	126,277	..
Residuum	bbls.	43,519	142,299	18,597	79,566	62,733	..
Animal—							
Lard..	galls.	252,577	203,317	388,836	298,731	..	95,414
Neat's foot, and other animal	,,	17,090	17,285	10,984	9,237	8,048	..
Sperm	,,	529,903	827,991	756,306	1,095,831	..	267,840
Whale and other fish	,,	573,775	280,750	288,263	154,243	126,507	..
Vegetable—							
Cotton-seed	,,	782,067	372,327	709,576	370,506	1,821	..
Linseed	,,	22,047	22,702	47,453	46,087	..	23,385
Volatile or essential	..	..	151,430	..	128,233	23,197	..
Ordnance stores—							
Cannon	..	..	91,570	..	11,217	80,353	..
Cannon and gun-carriages, &c.	..	..	50,234	..	2,500	47,734	..
Cartridges and fuses	..	..	649,222	..	563,314	85,908	..
Gunpowder	lbs.	371,693	76,546	625,772	107,015	..	30,469
Shot and shell	,,	1,351,079	93,305	..	12,209	81,096	..
Ore, argentiferous	cwts.	26,121	445,649	79,649	1,414,952	..	969,303
Paints and painters' colours	..	..	117,647	..	123,595	..	5,948
Paintings and engravings	..	..	161,503	..	122,311	39,192	..
Paper and stationery	..	..	652,612	..	658,248	..	5,636
Perfumery	..	..	403,554	..	450,282	..	46,728
Plated-ware, of silver or other metal	..	..	55,127	..	41,788	13,339	..
Printing-presses and type	..	..	163,839	..	162,900	939	..
Provisions—							
Bacon and hams	lbs.	347,405,405	33,383,908	395,381,737	35,022,137	..	1,638,229
Beef	,,	36,036,537	2,956,676	31,605,196	2,447,481	509,195	..
Butter	,,	4,367,983	1,092,381	4,518,844	952,919	139,462	..
Cheese..	,,	90,611,077	11,898,995	80,366,540	10,498,010	1,400,985	..
Condensed milk	..	..	79,018	..	14,385	..	15,367
Eggs	doz	23,749	5,239	15,683	4,169	1,070	..

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Fish, dried or smoked	cwts.	129,982	612,589	118,076	569,151	43,433	..
Fish, fresh	..	..	56,974	..	64,577	..	7,603
Fish, pickled	bbls.	29,000	226,041	16,747	109,201	116,840	..
Fish, other cured	..	..	1,128,208	..	677,171	451,037	..
Lard	lbs.	205,527,471	19,308,019	230,534,207	21,245,815	..	1,937,796
Meats, preserved	..	..	848,246	..	575,407	272,839	..
Oysters	..	..	223,733	..	243,723	..	19,990
Pickles and sauces	..	..	20,784	..	11,697	9,087	..
Pork	lbs.	70,482,379	5,808,712	64,147,461	5,007,035	801,677	..
Onions	bush.	34,105	52,057	41,881	53,616	..	1,559
Potatoes	,,	497,413	471,332	515,306	498,291	..	26,959
Other vegetables	..	..	109,682	..	101,503	8,179	..
Vegetables, prepared or preserved	..	..	46,396	..	20,953	25,443	..
Quicksilver	lbs.	501,389	580,521	714,783	626,021	..	45,500
Rags—							
Cotton and linen	,,	273,377	14,435	6,700	442	13,993	..
Woollen	,,	44,000	880	9,555	507	373	..
Rice	,,	558,922	27,075	276,637	19,740	7,335	..
Salt	bush.	31,657	14,701	73,323	43,777	..	29,076
Scales and balances	..	..	139,607	..	202,888	..	63,281
Seeds—							
Cotton	lbs.	6,303,985	63,557	4,005,009	45,486	18,071	..
Flax-seed or linseed	bush.	286	900	490	1,345	..	445
Clover, timothy, garden, &c.	..	..	674,457	..	1,114,231	..	439,774
Sewing-machines and parts of	..	..	1,594,296	..	2,150,720	..	556,424
Soap—							
Perfumed and all toilet	..	..	8,460	..	10,561	..	2,101
Other	lbs.	9,345,358	651,282	9,441,891	657,297	..	6,015
Spermaceti	,,	304,865	78,346	197,671	55,815	22,531	..
Spirits, distilled—							
From grain	galls.	1,893,800	982,287	654,365	359,646	622,641	..

From molasses	galls.	451,117	168,510	1,013,062	469,622	..	301,112
From other materials	,,	20,548	13,819	35,656	23,371	..	9,552
Spirits of turpentine	,,	6,784,173	2,758,933	5,114,653	2,667,386	91,547	..
Starch	lbs.	7,435,064	420,809	6,133,323	327,940	92,869	..
Steam and other fire-engines and apparatus		..	19,852	..	12,668	7,164	..
Sugar and molasses—							
Sugar, brown	lbs.	163,090	16,172	212,625	19,647	..	3,475
Sugar, refined	,,	9,969,821	1,041,162	9,870,738	1,142,824	..	101,662
Molasses	galls.	2,447,905	569,972	3,055,836	611,084	..	41,112
Candy and confectionery	..	..	30,593	..	27,873	2,720	..
Tallow	lbs.	101,755,631	8,135,320	79,170,558	7,068,471	1,066,849	..
Tin, and manufactures of	..	..	62,973	..	69,865	..	6,892
Tobacco, and manufactures of—							
Leaf	lbs.	318,097,804	30,399,181	213,995,176	22,689,135	7,710,046	..
Cigars	M.	2,458	24,473	215	7,764	16,709	..
Snuff	lbs.	15,716	7,092	12,196	7,462	..	370
Other manufactures	..	..	2,537,782	..	2,627,585	..	89,803
Trunks and valises	..	..	171,383	..	186,746	..	15,363
Umbrellas, parasols, and sun-shades	..	..	503	..	461	42	..
Varnish	galls.	63,306	96,018	62,294	80,618	15,400	..
Vessels sold to foreigners—							
Steamers	tons	80	14,000	558	74,000	..	60,000
Sailing-vessels	,,	23,226	892,760	15,069	521,353	371,407	..
Vinegar	galls.	25,348	8,122	19,481	5,097	3,025	..
Watches, and parts of	..	..	9,470	..	7,217	2,253	..
Wax	lbs.	342,068	113,800	374,486	118,053	..	4,253
Wearing apparel	..	..	427,992	..	417,547	10,445	..
Whalebone	lbs.	114,530	115,098	324,653	329,214	..	214,116
Wine	galls.	48,141	45,534	46,715	48,202	..	2,668
Wood, and manufactures of—							
Boards, clapboards, deals, planks, joists and scantling	M. feet	228,481	4,242,389	236,557	4,625,863	..	383,474
Laths, palings, pickets, &c.	M.	5,386	22,382	2,614	10,345	12,037	..
Shingles	,,	28,316	106,291	33,441	137,359	..	31,068
Box-shooks	..	..	63,856	..	263,277	..	199,421
Other shooks, staves, and headings	..	..	6,456,391	..	6,091,771	364,620	..

Commodities.		Year ended June 30, 1874.		Year ended June 30, 1873.		Increase.	Decrease.
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
			Dollars.		Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Hogsheads and barrels, empty	No.	170,348	335,777	145,277	267,195	68,582	..
All other lumber	..	..	164,131	..	249,872	..	85,741
Firewood	cords	2,721	9,279	6,324	18,366	..	9,087
Hop, hoop, telegraph, and other poles	..	..	1,028,584	..	672,893	355,691	..
Logs, masts, spars, and other whole timber	..	..	641,361	..	707,979	..	66,618
Timber, sawed and hewed	cubic ft.	25,209,048	4,422,160	14,154,244	2,731,635	1,690,525	..
All other timber	..	..	265,943	..	153,802	52,141	..
Household furniture	..	..	1,882,767	..	1,727,764	155,003	..
Wooden ware	..	..	240,350	..	237,097	3,253	..
All other manufactures of wood, n. e. s.	..	..	1,532,060	..	1,224,584	307,476	..
Wool, and manufactures of—							
Wool, raw and fleece	lbs.	319,600	72,169	75,129	17,624	54,545	..
Carpets	yards	1,306	1,396	1,678	2,225	..	829
Other manufactures of	..	..	122,703	..	207,672	..	84,969
Zinc, and manufactures of—							
Ore or oxide	cwts.	2,550	20,037	234	2,304	17,733	..
Plates, sheets, pigs, or bars	lbs.	43,566	3,612	73,953	4,656	..	1,044
All articles not enumerated—							
All other unmanufactured articles	..	..	558,184	..	335,374	222,810	..
All other manufactured articles	..	..	1,595,834	..	1,356,911	238,923	..
Total	..	..	..	..	..	92,046,711	48,140,220
Net increase	..	..	..	..	..	43,906,491	..
Portion shipped in cars and other land vehicles	..	..	5,645,265	..	7,785,075	..	2,139,810
Portion shipped in American vessels	..	..	165,998,880	..	163,110,634	2,997,146	..
Portion shipped in foreign vessels	..	..	521,394,909	..	478,236,854	43,158,055	..
Grand Totals	..	..	693,039,054	..	649,132,563	..	..

Recapitulation.

	Dollars.
Total domestic exports, 693,039,054 dollars; reduced to gold value	629,133,107
Total foreign exports, reduced to gold value	23,780,338
Total exports, gold value	652,913,445
Total imports	595,861,248
Balance in favour of United States	57,052,197

Specie and Bullion.

	Dollars.
Exported, domestic	59,699,686
Exported, foreign	6,930,719
Total exports	66,630,405
Total imports	28,454,906
Excess of specie exported	38,175,499

STATEMENT showing the Prices of Staple Articles in the New York Market at the beginning of each Month in the Year 1874.

Articles.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.
Breadstuffs—						
Wheat, northern amber .. per bush.	D. c. 1 65 to 1 75	D. c. 1 80 to 1 86	D. c. 1 75 to 1 85	D. c. 1 75 to 1 80	D. c. 1 73 to 1 75	D. c. 1 58 to 1 65
Wheat, red western .. .. .. ,,	1 56 1 68	1 60 1 65	1 60 1 62	1 60 1 61	1 60 1 66	1 55 1 56
Rye .. .. ,,	1 08 1 15	1 05 1 10	1 02 1 03	1 00 1 03	1 05 1 10	1 05 1 12
Corn .. .. ,,	0 78 0 79	0 81 0 82½	0 73 0 81	0 86 0 90	0 85 0 87	0 78 0 79½
Oats .. .. ,,	0 60 0 64	0 63 0 64	0 62 0 63	0 59 0 61	0 63½ 0 64	0 62 0 63
Barley .. .. ,,	1 45 1 75	1 75 1 80	1 75 1 80	1 75 1 85	1 73 1 75	1 70 1 75
Wheat-flour, superfine .. per barrl.	4 90 5 25	5 90 6 25	5 75 6 10	5 90 6 30	5 60 6 00	4 80 5 40
Wheat-flour, New York State ,,	6 30 6 75	6 60 7 00	6 40 6 70	6 40 6 65	6 25 6 65	6 00 6 35
Wheat-flour, western .. ,,	6 00 6 25	6 70 7 00	5 65 6 00	5 90 6 25	5 70 6 00	5 75 6 15
Wheat-flour, southern, family ,,	6 80 10 00	8 25 10 50	8 35 11 50	8 10 10 75	7 80 10 25	7 65 10 00
Rye-flour .. .. ,,	4 60 4 35	4 50 5 40	5 10 5 75	5 10 5 70	4 60 5 50	5 40 6 00
Corn-meal .. .. ,,	4 00 4 30	4 20 4 40	3 50 4 00	3 75 4 35	4 25 4 30	4 25 4 35
Coal, anthracite .. .. per ton	5 25 6 25	5 50 6 50	5 50 6 50	5 00 6 00	5 00 6 00	5 00 6 00
Coffee—						
Rio .. .. .. per lb.	0 21½ 0 22½	0 25¼ 0 26½	0 23½ 0 23¾	0 22 0 22¼	0 18¾ 0 19	0 18 0 18¼
San Domingo .. .. ,,	0 16½ 0 17	0 23½ 0 24	0 22 0 22½	0 18 0 19	0 17 0 18	0 15½ 0 16
Java .. .. .. ,,	0 25 0 27	0 31 0 32	0 28 0 32	0 25 0 27½	0 23½ 0 26	0 22 0 25
Copper—						
Bolts .. .. .. ,,	0 33 0 35	0 33 0 35	0 32 0 35	0 33 0 35	0 32 0 35	0 33 0 35
Sheathing .. .. ,,	0 30 0 33	0 25 0 30	0 22½ 0 25	0 22 0 23	0 22½ 0 25	0 22 0 22½
Cotton—						
Low middling .. .. ,,	0 16¼ 0 17½	0 15½ 0 15¾	0 15¼ 0 15⅝	0 16 0 16⅜	0 17¼ 0 17⅝	0 18 0 18⅛
Middling .. .. ,,	0 17⅝ 0 18	0 16¼ 0 16¾	0 16⅛ 0 16½	0 17 0 17⅜	0 17¼ 0 18⅛	0 18⅛ 0 18¼
Fish—						
Mackerel No. 1, bay .. per barrl.	15 00 16 00	16 00 18 00	17 00 20 00	17 00 18 00	15 25 17 00	15 00 16 75
Mackerel No. 2, bay .. ,,	14 00 15 00	13 50 14 50	14 50 15 50	14 50 15 50	14 50 15 50	14 25 15 25
Herring, pickled .. .. ,,	3 50 3 75	3 50 6 00	3 75 6 25	3 50 6 00	3 50 6 00	3 75 6 25
Dry cod .. .. per cwt.	4 25 5 00	4 75 5 75	5 00 6 00	5 00 6 00	4 25 5 50	4 25 5 00

Flax, American	per lb.	0 17	0 18½	0 18	0 19	0 17½	0 18½	0 17	0 18	0 17	0 17½	0 17½	0 18
Glass—													
American window, 8 by 10 ..	per 50 ft.	9 00	9 75	9 00	9 75	9 25	9 75	9 00	10 75	9 25	10 50	8 75	10 25
French window, 8 by 10 ..	,,	7 25	8 00	7 25	8 00	7 25	8 00	7 25	8 50	8 25	10 50	8 00	9 25
Gunpowder—													
Rifle	.. per 25 lbs.	6 00	6 25	6 00	6 25	6 00	6 25	6 12½	6 25	6 16½	6 25	6 00	6 25
Blasting powder	,,	3 25	3 75	3 25	3 75	3 50	3 75	3 60	3 75	3 60	3 75	3 50	3 75
Hemp—													
American, dressed ..	per ton	190 00	200 00	200 00	210 00	200 00	210 00	185 00	190 00	185 00	190 00	190 00	200 00
American, undressed ..	,,	125 00	130 00	130 00	150 00	139 00	150 00	115 00	120 00	115 00	120 00	125 00	130 00
Russia, clean	,,	220 00	225 00	220 00	225 00	220 00	225 00	225 00	230 00	225 00	230 00	225 00	230 00
Hides—													
Dry Buenos Ayres ..	per lb.	0 26½	0 27¼	0 26½	0 27	0 25½	0 26	0 26	0 26¾	0 26	0 27½	0 26	0 27
Dry Rio Grande ..	,,	0 26	0 27	0 25	0 26	0 25	0 26	0 26	0 26½	0 25	0 25½	0 24	0 25½
Dry California	,,	0 24½	0 25	0 24	0 24½	0 24	0 24½	0 24	0 25	0 24	0 24½	0 24¼	0 25
Hops, American	,,	0 25	0 40	0 25	0 40	0 25	0 40	0 25	0 40	0 25	0 35	0 25	0 35
Indigo, Manila	,,	0 65	0 85	0 75	0 85	0 70	0 85	0 70	0 85	0 60	1 10	0 65	1 05
Iron—													
Pig, American No. 1 ..	per ton	35 00	37 00	35 00	36 00	35 00	36 00	35 00	37 00	33 00	25 00	32 00	33 00
Pig, Scotch	,,	45 00	47 00	45 00	46 00	43 00	44 00	40 00	41 00	40 00	45 00	39 00	40 00
Bar, common English ..	,,	77 00	80 00	75 00	78 00	75 00	80 00	75 00	80 00	74 00	78 00	75 00	78 00
Refined	,,	80 00	85 00	80 00	82 00	80 00	85 00	80 00	85 00	77 50	80 00	78 00	82 00
Swedish	,,	162 00	170 00	140 00	145 00	137 50	140 00	137 50	140 00	135 00	140 00	137 00	140 00
Rails, American ..	,,	62 50	65 00	62 50	65 00	62 00	65 00	60 00	63 00	60 00	63 00	58 00	62 00
Rails, English	,,	60 00	65 00	58 00	62 00	57 00	60 00	55 00	57 00	55 00	58 00	54 00	55 00
Lead, pig, English ..	per 100 lbs.	6 87	7 00	6 87	7 00	6 75	6 87	6 62½	6 65	6 62½	6 75	6 50	6 62
Leather, sole—													
Oak	per lb.	0 41	0 43	0 42	0 43	0 41	0 43	0 42	0 43	0 40	0 44	0 41	0 43
Hemlock	,,	0 27	0 28	0 27½	0 29	0 27	0 28	0 28	0 30	0 28½	0 30	0 27	0 29
Liquors, domestic whisky ..	per gall.	0 96	0 96½	1 00	1 01	0 95	0 96	0 95	1 00	0 95	0 97½	0 96	0 98
Molasses—													
Muscovada	,,	0 25	0 28	0 28	0 30	0 28	0 30	0 28	0 30	0 30	0 31½	0 30	0 32
Cuba, clayed	,,	0 20	0 23	0 22	0 25	0 22	0 25	0 25	0 27	0 29	0 31	0 29	0 30
New Orleans, fair to good ..	,,	0 71	0 72	0 70	0 72	0 70	0 72	0 72	0 73	0 69	0 72	0 70	0 71
Nails, cut.. ..	per 100 lbs.	4 15	4 25	4 20	4 25	4 20	4 25	3 87½	4 00	3 90	4 00	3 95	4 05

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Articles.	January.		February.		March.		April.		May.		June.	
	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.
Naval stores—												
Spirits turpentine .. per gall.	0 41½	to 0 42½	0 45	to 0 48½	0 48	to 0 49½	0 46	to 0 47½	0 42	to 0 43	0 40	to 0 41
Resin, common .. .. per barrl.	2 45	2 50	2 50	2 55	2 40	2 50	2 45	2 55	2 70	2 75	2 75	2 80
Oils—												
Olive, in casks .. .. per gall.	1 10	1 15	1 12½	1 15	1 12½	1 15	1 15	1 20	1 15	1 20	1 15	1 20
Linseed .. .. „	0 87	0 89	0 90	0 93	0 95	0 97	0 93	0 97	0 97	0 98	0 94	0 95
Sperm, crude .. .. „	1 50	1 52½	1 50	1 55	1 65	1 67	1 65	1 68	1 60	1 65	1 56	1 58
Paints—												
American red lead .. per lb.	0 09	0 09¼	0 09	0 09¼	0 09	0 09¼	0 09	0 09¼	0 09¼	0 09½	0 08½	0 9
White, in oil .. .. „	0 10½	0 11	0 11	0 11½	0 11	0 11½	0 11	0 11½	0 10½	0 11¼	0 12½	0 12¾
Petroleum—												
Crude .. .. .. per gall.	0 05¼	0 05⅜	0 07	0 07¼	0 07	0 07½	0 07	0 07⅝	0 07¼	0 07½	0 07½	0 08¼
Refined .. .. „	0 18⅜	0 18½	0 14¾	0 15½	0 15¼	0 15½	0 15¼	0 15⅞	0 15½	0 15¾	0 13	0 14½
Provisions—												
Beef, mess, plain to extra .. per barrl.	10 00	13 00	8 50	13 00	10 50	13 50	9 50	11 75	10 00	11 50	9 50	12 00
Pork, mess, western .. „	14 50	16 50	15 00	16 25	14 50	15 75	15 50	16 75	16 00	17 25	16 50	17 25
Hams, pickled .. .. per lb.	0 09	0 10½	0 10	0 11½	0 09¼	0 11	0 10	0 11	0 10½	0 11½	0 10	0 11½
Shoulders, pickled .. „	0 06¾	0 07	0 07	0 07½	0 06¼	0 07	0 07¼	0 07½	0 07½	0 07¾	0 07½	0 07⅝
Lard, western .. .. „	0 08¼	0 09	0 09⅛	0 09⅜	0 09½	0 09¾	0 09⅞	0 10	0 10⅛	0 10⅝	0 11¼	0 11⅜
Butter, western reserve .. „	0 18	0 32	0 23	0 24	0 30	0 40	0 30	0 37	0 33	0 37	0 22	0 34
Butter, New York State, fine „	0 24	0 37	0 35	0 45	0 35	0 45	0 38	0 45	0 30	0 38	0 25	0 33
Cheese, western .. .. „	0 10	0 13½	0 09	0 13½	0 10	0 15	0 10	0 16	0 10	0 15	0 09	0 15½
Rice, Carolina, fair to prime, per 100 lbs.	7 50	8 50	7 62½	8 75	7 50	8 50	7 75	8 75	7 75	8 75	7 75	8 75
Salt—												
Liverpool ground .. per sack	1 10	1 25	1 10	1 25	1 10	1 25	1 10	1 25	1 10	1 25	1 10	1 15
Turk's Island .. .. per bush.	0 30	0 33	0 29	0 31	0 29	0 30	0 29	0 30	0 29	0 30	0 28	0 30
Seeds—												
Clover .. .. .. per lb.	0 09	0 09½	0 09⅛	0 09⅜	0 09¼	0 09½	0 10¼	0 10½	0 10⅛	0 10⅝	0 10	0 10¼
Timothy .. .. per bush.	3 25	3 50	3 25	3 50	3 12½	3 25	3 00	3 25	2 75	3 00	2 90	3 12⅜
Sugar—												
Cuba, refining .. .. per lb.	0 07⅛	0 07¾	0 06¾	0 07⅛	0 07⅛	0 07¾	0 07⅜	0 07¾	0 06¾	0 07⅛	0 06¾	0 07½
Havana, white .. .. „	0 09⅝	0 10	0 10	0 10½	0 09⅞	0 10⅜	0 10¼	0 10½	0 10½	0 10⅝	0 10¼	0 10⅝

Tallow, American, fair to prime ,,	0 07½	0 07¾	0 07⅝	0 07⅞	0 07⅝	0 07¾	0 07½	0 07¾	0 07⅝	0 07¾	0 07¼	0 08
Tea—												
Young Hyson .. .. ,,	0 40	0 60	0 40	0 60	0 40	0 60	0 40	0 60	0 40	0 60	0 40	0 60
Oolong, fine .. .. ,,	0 38	0 65	0 38	0 65	0 38	0 65	0 38	0 65	0 38	0 65	0 35	0 55
Souchong .. .. ,,	0 35	0 50	0 35	0 50	0 35	0 50	0 35	0 50	0 35	0 50	0 38	0 50
Tin, banca .. .. ,,	0 32	0 32½	0 31½	0 31¾	0 29	0 30	0 29	0 30	0 28	0 31	0 26½	0 27
Tobacco—												
Kentucky leaf .. .. ,,	0 09½	0 11	0 09½	0 10	0 09½	0 10	0 08¼	0 09½	0 07½	0 08½	0 07½	0 08½
Havana, common .. ,,	0 85	0 95	0 65	0 80	0 67	0 75	0 65	0 75	0 60	0 70	0 60	0 70
Wool—												
American, Saxony fleece .. ,,	0 53	0 55	0 52	0 60	0 52	0 60	0 53	0 60	0 53	0 60	0 53	0 65
American, extra pulled .. ,,	0 40	0 50	0 45	0 50	0 45	0 50	0 45	0 50	0 45	0 50	0 47	0 53
South American mestiza .. ,,	0 25	0 28	0 27	0 30	0 27	0 30	0 27	0 30	0 27	0 30	0 27	0 30

Articles.	July.		August.		September.		October.		Novembr.		December.	
	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.
Breadstuffs—												
Wheat, northern amber .. per bush.	1 40 to	1 50	1 27 to	1 35	1 15 to	1 30	1 20 to	1 26	1 23 to	1 25	1 28 to	1 28½
Wheat, red western .. ,,	1 40	1 50	1 32	1 33	1 24	1 26	1 24	1 26	1 18	1 22	1 25	1 26
Rye .. .. .. ,,	1 12	1 15	0 95	1 05	0 90	1 00	0 90	0 95	0 90	0 93	0 95	0 95½
Corn .. .. .. ,,	0 78	0 79	0 78⅛	0 79	0 85	0 86	0 96	0 99	0 89	0 90	0 89	0 92
Oats .. .. .. ,,	0 59	0 64	0 90	1 00	0 52	0 58	0 60	0 65	0 60	0 61	0 68½	0 71
Barley .. .. .. ,,	1 73	1 75	1 73	1 75	1 73	1 75	1 73	1 75	1 50	1 53	1 50	1 55
Wheat-flour, superfine .. per barrl.	4 95	5 25	4 70	5 00	4 80	5 10	4 60	5 95	4 50	4 80	4 60	4 86
Wheat-flour, New York State ,,	5 80	6 25	5 40	5 60	5 10	5 25	4 60	4 95	4 65	5 00	4 90	5 15
Wheat-flour, western .. ,,	6 00	6 25	5 50	5 75	4 80	5 10	4 95	5 15	4 90	5 10	5 00	5 20
Wheat-flour, southern, family ,,	8 00	9 25	7 25	8 50	6 90	8 00	5 75	7 75	5 80	8 00	7 50	8 25
Rye-flour .. .. ,,	5 40	6 00	5 60	6 60	5 40	5 75	5 00	5 40	4 90	5 25	4 95	5 25
Corn-meal .. .. ,,	4 00	4 65	3 60	4 00	3 60	4 05	4 00	4 65	4 25	4 75	4 15	4 70
Coal, anthracite .. .. per ton	5 00	6 00	5 00	6 00	5 00	6 25	5 00	6 50	5 00	6 50	5 00	6 50
Coffee—												
Rio .. .. .. per lb.	0 21⅛	0 21¾	0 21½	0 21¾	0 19	0 19¼	0 18¼	0 18½	0 16¼	0 17½	0 18½	0 19¾
San Domingo .. .. ,,	0 16½	0 17	0 16½	0 17	0 15½	—	0 14½	0 15	0 15¼	0 16	0 16	0 16½
Java .. .. .. ,,	0 22½	0 25	0 23½	0 26½	0 23	0 26½	0 22½	0 25	0 24	0 25½	0 24	0 25½

Articles.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.	
		D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.	D. c.
Copper—													
Bolts	.. per lb.	—	to 0 35	—	to 0 35	0 32	to 0 33	0 32	to 0 32	0 28	to 0 30	0 27	to 0 30
Sheathing	.. ,,	—	0 33	—	0 33	0 30	0 31	0 30	0 31	0 22	0 23	0 21	0 23
Cotton—													
Low middling	.. ,,	0 16¾	0 17⅜	0 16⅛	0 16½	0 16	0 16⅛	0 14⅞	0 15¼	0 14⅛	0 14⅝	0 14⅛	0 14¾
Middling	.. ,,	0 17⅝	0 18	0 17	0 17⅜	0 16⅞	0 17¼	0 15⅛	0 15¾	0 14⅝	0 15	0 14⅞	0 15⅛
Fish—													
Mackerel No. 1, bay ..	per barrl.	14 00	15 00	10 00	12 00	10 00	12 00	11 00	12 00	10 50	11 00	10 50	11 50
Mackerel No. 2, bay ..	,,	13 00	14 00	9 50	11 00	9 00	11 00	10 00	11 00	9 50	10 00	9 50	10 00
Herring, pickled	,,	4 50	5 00	4 25	4 75	4 00	4 75	4 50	5 25	5 00	7 00	5 00	7 00
Dry cod	per cwt.	4 25	5 00	4 59	5 59	4 50	6 00	5 50	6 25	6 00	6 50	6 00	6 50
Flax, American	per lb.	0 14½	0 16	0 14½	0 16	0 14½	0 16	0 14½	0 16	0 14½	0 16	0 15	0 16
Glass—													
American window, 8 by 10 ..	per 50 ft.	9 25	9 75	9 00	9 75	9 00	9 75	9 00	9 75	8 25	10 25	8 25	10 50
French window, 8 by 10	,,	8 00	8 25	8 00	8 25	8 00	8 25	8 00	9 25	8 00	9 25	8 00	9 75
Gunpowder—													
Rifle	.. per 25 lbs.	—	6 25	—	6 25	—	6 25	—	6 25	5 50	6 25	5 25	6 25
Blasting-powder ..	,,	—	3 75	—	3 75	—	3 75	—	3 75	3 50	3 75	3 25	3 50
Hemp—													
American dressed ..	per ton	190 00	200 00	190 00	200 00	220 00	230 00	220 00	230 00	220 00	230 00	220 00	225 00
American undressed ..	,,	125 00	130 00	125 00	130 00	140 00	150 00	140 00	150 00	210 00	225 00	210 00	220 00
Russia, clean	,,	225 00	230 00	225 00	230 00	—	—	225 00	230 00	220 00	230 00	220 00	230 00
Hides—													
Dry Buenos Ayres ..	per lb.	0 25	0 27	0 26	0 27	0 26	0 27	0 26	0 27	0 26½	0 27	0 25	0 26½
Dry Rio Grande ..	,,	0 25	—	0 25	—	0 25	0 26½	0 12¾	0 13	0 25	0 26	0 24	0 25
Dry California	,,	0 23	—	0 24	—	0 24½	—	0 24½	—	0 24½	0 25	0 23½	0 24
Hops, American	,,	0 10	0 30	0 10	0 25	0 10	0 30	0 15	0 28	0 38	0 45	0 35	0 45
Indigo, Manila	,,	0 60	0 85	0 60	0 85	0 60	0 85	0 60	0 85	0 60	0 80	0 60	0 80
Iron—													
Pig, American No. 1 ..	per ton	31 00	32 00	31 00	32 00	30 00	31 00	29 00	30 00	27 00	28 00	26 00	27 00
Pig, Scotch	,,	40 00	45 00	40 00	44 00	41 00	43 00	40 00	43 00	41 00	42 00	41 00	43 00
Bar, common English ..	,,	75 00	78 00	75 00	78 00	72 50	75 00	69 00	72 00	72 00	75 00	75 00	78 00

Bar, refined .. .. .. ,,	70 00	72 50	67 50	70 00	72 50	75 00	67 50	70 00	67 50	75 00	69 00	75 00	
Bar, Swedish .. .. ,,	160 00	162 50	160 00	162 50	140 00	145 00	140 00	145 00	140 00	145 00	140 00	145 00	
Rails, American .. .. ,,	58 00	60 00	58 00	62 50	58 00	62 50	55 00	60 00	55 00	58 00	50 00	55 00	
Rails, English .. .. ,,	50 00	52 00	50 00	52 00	50 00	£2 00	50 00	55 00	50 00	57 00	48 00	50 00	
Lead, pig, English .. per 100 lbs.	6 50	6 62½	6 50	—	6 50	6 62½	6 62½	6 70	5 50	6 75	5 50	6 75	
Leather, sole—													
Oak .. .. .. per lb.	0 42	0 43	0 42	0 43	0 42	0 43	0 42	0 43	0 38	0 45	0 38	0 45	
Hemlock .. .. ,,	0 28	0 28½	0 28	0 28½	0 28	0 28½	0 28	0 30	0 26	0 27	0 27	0 28	
Liquors, domestic whisky .. per gall.	0 95	0 97½	0 95	0 97½	0 95	0 97½	1 00	1 08	0 99	0 99½	1 02	1 02½	
Molasses—													
Muscovado .. .. ,,	0 28	0 30	0 28	0 30	0 27	0 30	0 29	0 31	0 28	0 30	0 29	0 31	
Cuba, clayed .. .. ,,	0 27	0 31	0 28	0 32	0 28	0 32	0 27	0 31	0 27	0 31	0 28	0 32	
New Orleans, fair to good .. ,,	0 80	0 85	0 80	0 84	0 81	0 82	0 80	0 81	0 80	0 81	0 81	0 82	
Nails, cut . .. per 100 lbs.	3 50	3 75	4 00	4 25	4 50	4 75	4 25	4 50	3 60	3 75	3 50	3 75	
Naval stores—													
Spirits turpentine .. per gall.	0 36	0 37	0 34	0 35	0 35	0 36	0 36½	0 37½	0 36	0 37	0 36½	0 37½	
Resin, common .. .. per barrl.	2 15	2 25	2 15	2 25	2 20	2 25	2 40	2 50	2 30	2 35	2 25	2 35	
Oils—													
Olive, in casks .. .. per gall.	1 15	1 20	1 17½	1 22½	1 20	1 22½	1 22½	1 25	1 15	1 25	1 17½	1 25	
Linseed .. .. ,,	0 87	0 88	0 85	0 87	0 83	0 84	0 77	0 79	0 77	0 79	0 79	0 80	
Sperm, crude .. .. ,,	1 52	1 53	1 55	1 60	1 58	1 60	1 62½	1 65	1 65	1 68	1 65	1 70	
Paints—													
American red lead .. per lb.	0 08¾	0 09	0 08½	0 09	0 08½	0 08¾	0 08½	0 08¾	0 08¼	0 08½	0 08¼	0 08½	
White, in oil .. .. ,,	0 10½	0 11½	0 10½	0 11½	0 11	0 11¾	0 11¾	0 12¼	0 10¾	0 11¼	0 12	0 12½	
Petroleum—													
Crude .. .. .. per gall.	0 05	0 05⅛	0 04⅞	0 05	0 05½	0 05¾	0 05¾	0 06	0 08½	0 08¾	0 08¼	0 08½	
Refined .. .. ,,	0 13	0 13¼	0 11⅛	0 11¾	0 12⅛	0 12½	0 13¼	0 13½	0 11	0 11¼	0 10¼	0 10⅜	
Provisions—													
Beef, mess, plain to extra .. per barrl.	9 50	12 50	12 00	13 00	12 00	13 00	10 00	13 00	10 00	13 00	9 00	13 00	
Pork, mess, western .. ,,	17 50	18 62½	20 00	22 00	21 00	22 75	21 50	23 00	19 00	20 25	21 00	22 00	
Hams, pickled .. .. per lb.	0 12	0 13	0 14	0 15	0 13½	0 14¼	0 12½	0 13	0 10½	0 11½	0 11	0 11⅛	
Shoulders, pickled .. ,,	0 07¼	—	0 08	0 08½	0 08	0 08⅜	0 09½	0 09¾	0 08	0 08½	0 07¾	0 08	
Lard, western .. .. ,,	0 11½	0 11 9/16	0 13	0 13⅜	0 14½	0 14⅜	0 14	0 14½	0 13⅞	0 14	0 14	0 14⅛	
Butter, western reserve .. ,,	0 26	0 28	0 17	0 27	0 21	0 31	0 25	0 33	0 20	0 38	0 20	0 35	
Butter, New York State, fine ,,	0 25	0 30	0 18	0 35	0 28	0 40	0 28	0 43	0 44	0 45	0 45	0 47	
Cheese, western .. .. ,,	0 06	0 13½	0 11	0 11½	0 12¼	0 12¾	0 12½	0 13	0 12	0 15	0 10	0 15	

Articles.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	D. c. D. c.	D. c. D. c.	D. c. D. c.	D. c. D. c.	D. c. D. c.	D. c. D. c.
Rice, Carolina, fair to prime .. per lb.	0 07¼ to 0 08⅝	0 07⅞ to 0 08⅞	0 07½ to 0 08½	0 07 to 0 07⅞	0 07 to 0 07¾	0 07¼ to 0 08
Salt—						
Liverpool, ground .. per sack	1 00 1 10	1 00 1 10	1 10 1 15	1 10 1 12	1 00 1 10	1 00 1 25
Turk's Island .. .. per bush.	0 25 0 30	0 26 0 30	0 25 0 28	0 28 0 30	0 30 0 31	0 28 0 30
Seeds—						
Clover .. .. .. per lb.	0 10 0 10½	0 10 0 10½	0 10 0 10¾	0 10½ 0 10⅝	0 09¼ 0 09½	0 10 0 10¼
Timothy .. .. per bush.	2 90 3 12½	3 27½ 3 50	2 90 3 00	2 75 2 90	2 75 2 90	2 75 2 80
Sugar—						
Cuba, refining .. .. per lb.	0 08 1/16 0 08⅛	0 08⅛ 0 08⅜	0 08⅛ 0 08⅝	0 08¼ 0 08¾	0 07⅝ 0 08⅛	0 08⅜ 0 09
Havana, white .. .. ,,	0 10¼ 0 10¾	0 10¼ 0 10¾	0 10½ 0 11	0 10¾ 0 11¼	0 10¼ 0 11¼	0 10 0 11
Tallow, American, fair to prime ,,	0 08 0 08 7/16	0 07½ 0 08½	0 08 0 08½	0 08⅝ 0 08⅞	0 08¾ 0 09	0 08½ 0 08⅞
Tea—						
Young Hyson .. .. ,,	0 40 0 60	0 40 0 60	0 40 0 60	0 48 0 60	0 40 0 60	0 40 0 60
Oolong, fine .. .. ,,	0 60 1 00	0 60 1 00	0 65 1 00	0 65 1 00	0 53 0 55	0 33 0 55
Souchong .. .. ,,	0 38 0 50	0 38 0 50	0 38 0 50	0 38 0 50	0 38 0 50	0 38 0 50
Tin, banca .. .. ,,	— 0 26½	— 0 25½	0 25½ 0 25¾	— 0 25½	0 25 0 25½	0 25½ 0 26
Tobacco—						
Kentucky leaf .. .. ,,	0 07½ 0 08½	0 09½ 0 10½	0 11½ 0 13	0 14 0 16	0 14 0 15	0 14 0 15
Havana, common . .. ,,	0 60 0 70	0 60 0 70	0 70 0 75	0 70 0 75	0 70 0 80	0 75 0 85
Wool—						
American, Saxony fleece .. ,,	0 53 0 60	0 53 0 60	0 53 0 62	0 50 0 63	0 53 0 65	0 53 0 65
Extra pulled .. .. ,,	0 46 0 48	0 47 0 53	0 38 0 45	0 38 0 45	0 45 0 53	0 40 0 45
South American mestiza .. ,,	0 27 0 30	0 27 0 30	0 30 0 32	0 30 0 32	0 27 0 33	0 27 0 33

Notes from Report by Her Majesty's Consul-General at New York.

Her Majesty's Consul-General at New York points out that the tonnage which passed through the waters of New York in 1874 exceeded that of the previous year by 60,687 tons, and that the steam vessels are gradually displacing sailing vessels. A comparison of the tonnage of steam vessels in 1874 with that of 1869 shows an increase of 903,957 tons, whilst the aggregate tonnage of the port has doubled within the last ten years.

In addition to the long established lines of steam-vessels, steamers now also ply between New York and Holland, Denmark, and Sweden, respectively; screw-steamers are almost entirely replacing paddle-wheelers, the former not carrying more than about one-fourth of the quantity of coal which is carried by the latter. Owing to the competition amongst the lines of steamers and the decrease in the importations from Europe the freight and other rates charged are sometimes so low as to be unremunerative.

The shipping trade of New York for the year 1874 was not a productive one, the sales of shipping not having aggregated one-third of those of 1873. The construction of tonnage in the various ports of the United States in 1874 may be set down, in round numbers, at 250,000 tons.

Rule of the Ocean highway.

The Cunard Company have adopted the rule of causing their vessels not to pass to the north or to the south of a certain line in traversing the Atlantic from Queenstown or New York, respectively, but until some international arrangement shall have been arrived at in the question of a rule of the ocean-highway no considerable decrease need be looked for in the number of casualties on the northern Atlantic.

Mr. Archibald states that the fires in New York during 1874 did not exceed one half of the number which occurred in 1872.

Notes from Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Boston.

Her Majesty's Consul in Boston reports much commercial depression in that city during 1874, which may be attributed in part to the financial disturbance and in part to the effects of the fire of 1872. There was in 1874, as compared with 1873, a falling off in imports of 10,630,000 dollars and in exports of 3,386,000 dollars. Domestic trade and industry afford indications of a more than temporary commercial disorganization. Speculation was discouraged, notwithstanding an over-

flow of money in the local banks and a superabundance of unemployed labour. Yet, since the great fire of two years ago, Boston has been reconstructed on a scale worthy of the foremost commercial cities.

British and Colonial trade 70 per cent.

The import and export trade with Great Britain and her Dependencies formed in value about 70 per cent. of the entire trade of Boston for the past year. The wool trade of the United States is fast centering in that city, it having received about three-fourths of last year's clip from California and a large proportion from other wool-producing States. The weekly sales ranged between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 lbs. The cotton market latterly showed a downward tendency. Dry goods' business suffered severely, and clothing trade was dull. Of boots and shoes 60,000,000 pairs were sold in the year. The trade in Calcutta goods has left Boston for New York. The supply of several kinds of cereals shows a large increase over that of 1873.

Prohibitory Liquor Laws.

Mr. Henderson states that the conviction that the Prohibitory Liquor Laws have entirely failed in checking intemperance has led to the election of an anti-prohibition State Legislature. In connection with this subject I may mention that Prohibitory Liquor Laws, similar to those ruling in Maine and Massachusetts, were in the month of August last put in force in the State of Rhode Island. Whatever their effect in checking intemperance or otherwise, the open manner in which they are evaded must tend to bring about disrespect for law and in other ways to demoralize the population.

No new lines or extentions of railway were made in the States of Massachusetts, Vermont, and New-Hampshire in 1874. There are in Massachusetts 1,349 miles of railroad, the passenger rate per mile being 2·62 cents (about $1\frac{1}{2}d.$) and that of freight per ton 4.24 cents (about $2\frac{1}{4}d.$). Valuation for taxation of real and personal property in Massachusetts was in 1874 4 per cent. more than it was in 1873, but taxation has greatly increased for country and town requirements.

Notes from Report by Her Majesty's Consul in Maine.

Her Majesty's Consul at Portland, in an able and interesting report, gives much information as to the resources and statistics of the State of Maine, which information possesses the more value from its being only now obtainable, owing to the recent publication of certain statistics. There has been a considerable dimin-

ution in the number of British vessels entering at and clearing from Portland in 1874 as compared with the entries and clearances of 1873; but the tonnage and the value of imports there has increased, whilst the dock accommodation is much better than it was before. The tonnage which entered from Great Britain and the British Colonies amounted to 86,889 tons, the value of the cargoes being 2,183,314*l*. The tonnage which cleared was 102,563 tons, of value 1,541,424*l*.

Flourishing condition of State.

The State of Maine contributed to the tonnage of the United States in 1874 a larger amount by 32,720 tons than in 1873. Ship-building has quite recovered from the prostration to which it was reduced during the rebellion, and progress in building railroads keeps pace with the growth of manufactures. The extraordinary progress of Maine is attributed by Mr. Murray to the policy which has been adopted by the State of favouring manufacturing enterprise. Amongst many items of trade which appear in Mr. Murray's Report I may select one or two. The total ice-product of the State for the season was 800,000 tons. In 1873 there were manufactured in Maine 5,644,244 pairs of boots and shoes, or 9 pairs for every inhabitant of the State. The statistics of the fisheries are incomplete, but 861 vessels were employed in the year in the cod and mackerel fishery. Canning lobsters and salmon has become a leading business in Maine, in which, in 1873, 4,087 hands were employed. There were produced 231,600 dozen cans of lobsters and 20,000 dozen cans of salmon. Mr. Murray considers that the forest acreage of Maine is sufficient to supply all probable demands for scores of years to come. The State has more forest in proportion to its area that any other State in the Union. The year 1874 was unfavourable to the lumber business.

Details of trade.

Aggregate wealth of Maine.

The aggregate value of all the mechanical and manufacturing products of Maine for 1873, together with the total value of all its agricultural productions, is estimated at 152,750,798 dollars.

Failure of Prohibitory Liquor Laws.

Mr. Murray concludes his Report by furnishing a number of statistics respecting the results of the Prohibitory Liquor Laws in the State of Maine.

The result of his statement on the subject goes to prove that, although these laws may to a certain extent have effected the desired object, namely, to check intem-

perance in the villages, they have entirely failed to effect that object in the cities, and it is generally believed that a License Law would meet the end much better. There were in 1874 four times as many convictions for breaches of the Liquor Laws as there were in 1866, whilst the amount of fines inflicted was ten times greater.

Notes from Report by Her Majesty's Consul at Philadelphia.

Mr. Kortright reports a somewhat favourable reaction at Philadelphia from the state of things which was produced by the financial panic of the year 1873, but great distress continued to exist among those dependent on the mining and manufacturing interests, especially in the iron trade. Large bodies of immigrants returned to Europe, where the purchase power of money is very much greater than at Philadelphia.

Grain elevators at junction of Delaware and Schuylkill.

The grain-elevators at the junction of the rivers Delaware and Schuylkill form an important element in facilitating the trade of the port of Philadelphia, especially with regard to cereals from the west, for which trade it is striving to become the entrepôt. The American Steam-ship Company, recently united with the Red Star Line, is the only line of steamers on the Atlantic carrying the American flag and has, so far, contributed to facilitate the traffic of Philadelphia, to which city 6,000 new houses are yearly added.

Mr. Kortright gives a number of statistics which will be read with much interest by those who may propose to visit the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. They refer to the general aspect of the city in which the Exhibition will be held. Philadelphia has a population of nearly 800,000, 1,000 miles of streets, and more than 200 miles of city railways.

Shipping.

On the whole, the shipping interests of the port are thriving and promise to become more so. The moderate port charges offer advantages to owners and agents of vessels. The tonnage of British shipping entered at Philadelphia in 1874 shows a falling off as compared with the entries of 1873, of 42,096 tons. The tonnage of American vessels entered at Philadelphia in 1874 shows a corresponding, or rather greater, increase as compared with that of those entered in 1873.

Imports and exports.

The imports at Philadelphia for 1874 show a falling off of 4,000,000 dollars as against those of 1873. The decrease has been chiefly in copper, iron and its manufactures, lead, metals, provisions, soda-carbonate, sugar,

molasses, and clay. On the other hand, 1874 showed a gain in imports over 1873 in cotton, flax, leather and its products, opium, silks, tin plates, wines and spirits, and in woollen manufactures. The total value of the foreign imports in 1874 was 25,000,000 dollars or rather more; that of the exports nearly 30,000,000 dollars. In 1873 there was only an excess of about 500,000 dollars in the value of the exports over that of the imports; thus, whilst the imports greatly fell off in 1874, the exports have remained steady.

American Steam-ship Company.

The establishment of the American Steam-ship Company, together with the prospect of the Centennial Exhibition, induced a large body of labourers and artizans to come to Pennsylvania; but the labour market is so over-stocked that Mr. Kortright states that numerous applications are daily received at his Consulate from persons wishing to be sent back to England, to comply with which, at the public expense, is of course out of his power, the applicants having come to the United States with the object of bettering themselves. Nearly 4,500 British immigrants arrived at Philadelphia in 1874, and nearly as many more from other countries.

Petroleum.

A violent competition is being carried on between the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia for the possession of the refining and exporting trade in petroleum, and is exhibited in a lowering of the charges on the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Railroads respectively; lawsuits connected with the subject being now pending. Petroleum forms the most important and remunerative article of export from the State of Pennsylvania, which State furnishes about 22,400 barrels per day, or 56 per cent. of the total daily produce of refined petroleum in the United States; the State of New York furnishing 25 per cent., or 10,000 barrels, and that of Ohio 19 per cent. or 7,600 barrels; the total daily produce of refined petroleum oil being about 40,000 barrels. The report from which I have quoted as above furnishes details of the production of petroleum in Pennsylvania for the last five years.

Coal.

It next deals with the trade in coal, which industry was, during the past year, most flourishing, and is, in a measure, monopolized by the great railroad companies, who are their own miners and carriers. At the

Schuylkill and other mining regions the rate of wages is regulated by the price of coal. For every dollar in advance of 5 dollars per ton in the price of coal at the shipping ports labourers receive an increase of 12½ per cent. on their wages of 2*l.* 10*s.* a week. Contention between capital and labour is of constant occurrence in the mining districts. The annual product of the anthracite coal of Pennsylvania is now 19,000,000 tons.

Iron and steel.

There has been great prostration in the iron and steel industry of Pennsylvania since the panic of 1873, and large numbers of operators are thrown out of employ. The proprietors of the large iron-works in the interior of Pennsylvania desire relief from Government, and were clamorous against the recently proposed Reciprocity Treaty with Canada. One cause of the depression in this trade is the increased importance of the iron trade of Ohio, Indiana, and other States, especially in raw iron. Imports are looked for of manufactured iron from Great Britain, owing to the depression of the trade there, and this element of uneasiness contributes still more to depress the trade in this article at Philadelphia. Mr. Kortright gives details of the imports of iron and steel and the manufactures thereof in the United States during the fiscal years ended June 30, 1871-72-73, and 1874.

Agriculture.

His Report next passes on to the subject of agriculture in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa, respectively, giving the products for the years 1873 and 1874.

Centennial Exhibition.

After a reference to the public institutions of Pennsylvania, the Report contains a reference to the Centennial Exhibition proposed to be held at Philadelphia in 1876, the work of the buildings for which is in full progress. The State of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia have contributed 1,500,000 dollars (300,000*l.*) towards the erection of the art gallery. The remaining buildings, which extend over a space of 50 acres, are the machinery hall, the agricultural department, the conservatory and horticultural hall.

Items in Report.

The Report I quote from concludes with a reference to the finances of Pennsylvania, the new State Constitution, the sanitary condition of Philadelphia, and to some of the establishments of that place. The information given derives the more interest from the prominence

which will be attached to Philadelphia during the Exhibition of the year 1876, to celebrate the first centennial celebration of American Independence.

Notes from Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Baltimore.

Her Majesty's Consul at Baltimore states that the movement of shipping of that port for 1874 shows a considerable falling off as compared with that of the four immediately preceding years. There has been much competition of foreign with British vessels in the export grain trade, the grain being taken to the Continent direct. There has been, in particular, an increase in the trade done by Italian and Norwegian vessels. Fifty-one vessels in 1874 cleared from Baltimore charged with petroleum, as against twenty-nine similarly laden which cleared from there in 1873.

Chesapeake and Delaware Bays Canal.

There is a prospect of the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays being ere long connected by means of a ship canal of thirty-one miles in length, and of capacity to admit the largest class of vessels that now enter Baltimore, by which the distance from that port to Europe would be decreased by 225 miles, and much exposed navigation would be avoided. The Canal Company has received charters from the States of Maryland and Delaware.

Ice crop of the Susquehanna.

In Mr. Donohoe's Report may be found some interesting statistics as to the cutting and storing of the ice-crop on the Susquehanna and for the supply of Baltimore. Some idea of the consumption of ice in the United States may be gathered from the fact that Baltimore, a town of more or less the size of Edinburgh, requires yearly 150,000,000 lbs. of ice, exclusive of the quantity used by the butchers and meat packers, whilst in January last no fewer than 6,000 men were at one time employed in cutting ice by machinery on the Susquehanna.

Notes from Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Charleston.

Her Majesty's Consul at Charleston in South Carolina states that operations are being carried on with the object of deepening the entrance to that port. Six heavy iron-plated gun-boats (Confederate), one United States' gun-boat, six blockade runners, and a number of torpedo-boats have been removed from the channel, and now a vessel drawing 17 feet may safely go through the mean high water. Vessels drawing 15½ feet of water may now enter Cape Fear River.

Deepening entrance to harbour.

Wages in South Carolina are high and the labour market is unsatisfactory, causing planters to have to

contend with increased embarrassment. Additional mills are being erected for the manufacture of cotton, and gins propelled by steam for extracting seed. Public works are talked of but not begun.

Extracts from Report by Her Majesty's Consul at Savannah.

By the Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Savannah it appears that the commerce of that place has greatly and steadily increased since the war. Its trade with Great Britain has likewise steadily increased. Savannah is now the port second in importance in the United States for the cotton trade, New Orleans being the first. The following figures show the increase in the tonnage of the shipping at Savannah in the course of the last eight years :—

	Tons.
In 1866	42,350
In 1874	185,500

Of which—

In 1866	38,654
In 1874	122,377

were in the trade with Great Britain.

Georgia exports to Great Britain cotton and timber, and imports coals, salt, and guano.

Receipts of cotton in 1874. Export of 1874.

The receipts of cotton at Savannah in the year ending September 1, 1874, showed an increase over those of the year preceding of 40,000 bales. The exports for the same year were 656,133 bales, of which 429,571 bales went to foreign countries, 242,943 bales going to Great Britain, and the rest in various proportions to Germany, Russia, France, Spain, Sweden, and Norway, the Netherlands, and Italy, the next purchaser being Germany, which takes 56,700 bales, and the smallest Italy, which takes only 2,219 bales.

Trade in pitch pine wood.

Most of the rolling stock of the railways in the United States, as well as most of the bridges, are constructed of pitch pine. In an ordinary business year from 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 feet of this wood are needed to repair the annual destruction, but last year this trade was almost suspended, owing to the necessity for economy which was created by the panic. Shippers were thus heavy losers, owing to the glut in the market from accumulated stock.

Average rice yield.

The average rice yield per acre was 40 bushels, Negro labour exclusively being employed in the rice

fields. The cotton mills at Atalanta have proved remarkably successful, as have the operations of the recently established Paper Manufacturing Company. The consumption of rice straw for this purpose is 4 tons a-day.

Measures have been taken to dredge the Savannah River.

Importance of Tybee.

Tybee, Mr. Elmore considers, will probably, at no distant day, become the port of call for the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Its commerce is rapidly increasing, and the State of Georgia is comparatively unaffected by the misfortunes of the other States of the South. The Negro population has decreased since their emancipation, but labour is obtainable at reasonable rates.

Notes from Report of Her Majesty's Consul in Alabama.

The Report for the years 1873 and 1874 by Her Majesty's Consul at Mobile throws much light on the present condition of Alabama. The cotton crop for last year, although a fair one, showed a falling off from that of the previous year of 32,879 bales. The value of the cotton which was received at Mobile in the last season was 21,240,000 dollars. The present season, so far, has been prosperous, the excess from September 1, 1874, to January 30, 1875, over the yield of a similar period twelve months back being 30,515 bales. The direct exports to continental Europe are gradually increasing.

There has been in recent years a large increase in the acreage devoted to the growth of Indian corn, cultivators now seeing that it is not to their interest to devote their land exclusively to cotton, leaving bread ingredients to be imported.

The timber trade attracts much attention, and there has been an increase in agricultural products, including turpentine, resin, and tar, the production of which articles was 25 per cent. greater than in last year.

Efforts to attract to Alabama a portion of the European immigration into the United States seem likely to be successful.

Rich ores at Red Mountain.

Mr. Cridland gives a description of the steps that are being taken to turn to account the red hemilite and fossiliferous iron ores near Centreville, 112 miles from Jackson, at which point coal likewise crops out. Too much, he considers, cannot be said as to the store of wealth which the Red Mountain contains. The range

extends about 100 miles in length, is one mile wide at its base, and is full of solid iron ores.

Alabama and Grand Trunk Railway.

To develop this district and to facilitate bringing its produce to market, the Alabama and Grand Trunk Railroad from Mobile to Birmingham (232 miles) is about to be completed, and will, Mr. Cridland anticipates, prove the best paying line in the United States.

Little can be said of a positive nature on the financial position of the State further than that it cannot yet meet its liabilities, but it may be hoped that its embarrassments are but temporary. On the whole, Mr. Cridland's Report on Alabama indicates returning prosperity.

Notes from Her Majesty's Consul at New Orleans.

The following figures, given by Her Majesty's Consul at New Orleans, show a comparison of the returns of the chief articles of trade at that port in the year 1873-74 as against the year 1872-73 :—

Cotton.	Cotton received in New Orleans—	
	Average of six years to 1872-3 ..	1,123,856 bales.
	Received in 1873-4	1,359,896 „
Sugar.	Sugar—	
	Average of six years to 1873 ..	107,188 hogsheads.
	Crop of 1873-4	89,408 „
Tobacco.	Tobacco—	
	Average of six years to 1873 ..	24,294 „
	Crop of 1873-4	17,221 „
Corn.	Corn—	
	Received in 1873	1,406,204 sacks, or 4,218,612 bushels.
	Received in 1874	1,215,645 sacks, or 3,646,935 bushels.
	Exported to Great Britain in 1872-73	651,528 „
	Ditto in 1873-4	637,623 „
Imports.	Imports—	
	Customs' valuation, 1872	19,933,180 dollars.
	Ditto, 1873	14,351,698 „
Shipping.	Shipping in 1874—	
	American steamers (long sea) ..	67 .. Sail .. 264
	Foreign ditto (including British) ..	110 .. „ .. 456
	Coastwise (all American)	319 .. „ .. 145
British Direct Trade.	British Direct Trade—	
	Vessels entered	155
	Cleared	186
	Indirect—	
	Vessels entered	124
	Cleared	61
Round British Trade.	Round British Trade; Entered and Cleared—	
	Increase over 1873	41 ships, or 57,334 tons.
	Over 1872	21 „ 14,845 „

Cotton carried by British ships in 5 years— Cotton in British ships.

1870	431,776 bales.
1871	478,884 „
1872	368,733 „
1873	537,995 „
1874	538,269 „

Notes from Report by Her Majesty's Consul at San Francisco.

The following notes are taken from the annual Report of 1874 by Her Majesty's Consul at San Francisco:—

The exports of gold and of silver from California in the past five years, exclusive of what was sent eastward by mail, were in value 6,036,126*l.* The receipts of treasure in San Francisco through the express Company were 7,485,800*l.*

Export of grain and flour.

The total export of grain and flour in 1874 was 8,070,868 centals of wheat, 912,269 centals of barley, 78,286 centals of oats, and 579,380 barrels of flour. The following figures show the relative receipts of grain and flour at San Francisco in the years 1864 and 1874 respectively during the harvest season:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Flour.
	100 lb. sacks.	100 lb. sacks.	100 lb. sacks.	Barrels.
1864 ..	1,843,840	623,266	304,504	99,298
1874 ..	8,073,291	1,211,062	252,516	470,631

Shipping.

Mr. Booker gives an extract from the Reports of the leading grain broker on the prospects of the grain trade from San Francisco.

On the 31st of December last, there were nearly 60,000 tons of unengaged shipping in San Francisco, whilst more than that amount was known to be on its way to the Golden Gate.

Wool.

The receipts of wool in 1874 were 112,922 bags. There were sent eastwards—

	Lbs.
By railroad	32,020,228
By sea, viâ Panama	3,117,750
By sailing-vessels	950,723
Total	36,088,701

Value, 1,636,400*l.*

The value of foreign merchandize imported by sea into San Francisco was—

	£
Free	3,029,716
Dutiable	3,280,969

of which

	£
Free	30,165
Dutiable	1,127,364

came from Great Britain.

Tea. The tea imports of 1874 were—

	Lbs.
From China	1,751,610
From Japan	6,277,960
	8,029,570

as against

	Lbs.
A total import, in 1873, of	3,758,901
Overland shipments	11,779,156

In September 1874, the two steamers of the China Trans-Pacific Company, which had run since the beginning of the year, were chartered by the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, it being found impossible for the former Company to run them profitably at the low rates of freight which they established.

The tonnage of British ships arrived at San Francisco in 1874 was 274,167 tons, as against 94,350 tons in the year 1870. The English steam-ship line between San Francisco and Sydney and Auckland has not proved successful, and the service is now performed by steamers chartered by the Government of New South Wales.

Fruit. The progress of irrigation in California is slow, but Mr. Booker points out that so soon as the production of fruit in that State shall have exceeded the demands of the Pacific coast, it will in all probability cause a disturbance of the vast fruit trade between the Mediterranean and New York and the West Indies and New York. The production of wine is estimated at from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 gallons a-year. Favourably situated vineyards yield large profits, from 20*l.* to 40*l.* per acre.

Mines of Nevada. The Report contains interesting statistics of the mines of Nevada, also a list of the factories of San Francisco. The labour market is steady, and skilled-labour wages are well maintained. There are estimated to be 100,000 Chinese in the United States, four-fifths

of the number being in California and Nevada. Wages range from 8 dollars a-month for a boy to 25 or 30 dollars for a really good servant. Out-of-door labour brings 75 cents a-day for light work, and a dollar a-day for heavy work.

Railroads in California.

In California there are 1,261 miles of broad-gauge railroad and 49 miles of narrow gauge, and 45 miles in course of construction. The increase in the population in the year was 47,810.

To the above extracts from Mr. Booker's Report, I may add the following notes from a work called "Semi-Tropical California," by Major Truman, which, I am informed, may be fully relied on for accuracy. It is published by Messrs. Bancroft and Co. of San Francisco :—

"A man cannot get first-class land in or right near the City of Los Angeles without paying a pretty round price for it—say from 10 to 100 dollars an acre. The investment of from 2,500 to 5,000 dollars, however, will purchase a fine piece of vineyard land, that will make a fortune every year after the lapse of eight years. In the meantime, the farmer may raise enough grain to keep his family, and make something besides.

"To a labourer accustomed to farmwork, Semi-tropical California offers superior inducements. He, above all others, is never out of employ—his wages averaging from 3 to 4 dollars the year round. Mechanics are also in demand—getting the same wages as in San Francisco : carpenters 5 dollars a-day ; bricklayers, 5 dollars ; plasterers, 6 dollars ; stonecutters, 5 dollars ; blacksmiths, from 4 to 5 dollars (in gold), eight hours constituting a legal day's work. It must be remembered that flour, meat, and potatoes—the three great staples that keep the stove of physical life burning—have been for three years past, and are now, selling at from 20 to 60 per cent. less than they are bringing in New York. At present, flour may be bought for 6 and 7 dollars per barrel, beef at 10 and 15 cents per lb., and potatoes at 1 dollar per 100 lbs. An inkling of how the working-men of this coast progress in saving money, is got at in the fact that the savings' institutions of San Francisco, almost entirely patronized by the labouring class of that city, hold deposits amounting to 17,000,000 dollars in gold.

"There are four lines of daily traffic at present between the City of Los Angeles and San Francisco, and many others are projected. The splendid and substantial vessels of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company make six or eight trips per month, and so also do the steamers of the Goodall, Nelson, and Perkins line. Stages run daily each way *viâ* San Fernando and Bakersfield, and up and down the coast *viâ* Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and other delightful cities lying west of the Sierras."

Mr. Booker's Report on Oregon.

In a seperate Report on the State of Oregon Mr. Consul Booker observes that in the year 1874 there has been a marked increase in the exports of cereals and salmon, though at much lower prices than for some years past and with unremunerative results. The direct exports to foreign countries have greatly extended, and most of the tonnage has entered direct. The surplus of wheat available for exports is 100,000 tons; of flax 1,200 tons; of oats 172,515 centals. During the last season 1,150,000 salmon were taken, of an average of 16 lbs. each, of which 950 were canned fresh and the remainder salted and barrelled.

Exports: cereals, salmon, wool, lumber, iron, coal, treasure.

The wool-clip for 1874 was 2,300,000 lbs., and the local consumption 609,000 lbs. The average price during the year was 25 cents. per lb. The registered (but not the total) exports of lumber were 2,058,000 feet, value 22,181 dollars. The production of iron during the year was 1,813 tons. The export of coal was 44,857 tons. The shipments of treasure were in value 2,030,160 dollars. The imports from foreign countries were in value 491,399 dollars.

Navigation of rivers.

Many obstructions to the navigation of the Columbia and Willamette rivers have been partially or entirely removed. Vessels can now load at Portland to 16 feet at all times. Masters of vessels should be informed that

Pilots.

pilots are only compelled by law to go one mile beyond the outer buoy on the Columbia Bar. There is some ground for the belief that vessels often keep too far off for pilots to sight them.

Report on timber in the United States.

I have in a previous Report (dated June 9, 1874) given details as to the supply and consumption of timber in the United States and need not here do more than refer to the document in question. The tendency of legislation in many States is to provide for the con-

servation of timber, the laws in some instances requiring that three trees be planted for every tree cut down. The consumption of timber throughout the United States is enormous, more especially in the mining districts. To meet the wants of the western mines a method of conveyance has not long since been invented which is said to be equally simple, economical, and efficient. An artificial wooden aqueduct, called a "flume," of triangular shape, six feet wide at the top and some three deep at the centre, connects the forest with the mine. It requires but slight water pressure, and can be constructed so as to follow the natural inclinations or sinuosities of the district or valley along which it may be carried. A guardian is stationed at about every second mile's distance along it, and should he observe any cessation of the passage of timber along the flume his office is to proceed to the spot where the obstruction may occur and to remove it; but although many of these flumes have been in operation during the last two or three years, some of them of a length of fifty miles, I have been assured by a Californian proprietor that blocks very seldom occur in the passage of timber along them, and that they likewise afford the means of transit for foresters, who seat themselves on the floating piles of wood.

New method of conveying timber to mouth of mines.

As one example amongst any number that might be cited of the enormous quantities in which wood is called for in the western States I may instance what I observed when travelling through Nevada on the Union and Pacific Railway, namely, that one continous artificial snow-shed or tunnel, which it required an hour and twenty minutes to traverse, and which was said to be twenty-nine miles in length, was constructed entirely of piles and planks of timber.

Example of demand for timber.

Railways of the United States.

The following table shows approximately the number of miles of railway in each of the United States and territories thereof at the commencement of the calendar years 1875, 1874, and 1873, and also the amount of new railway completed in each for the years 1874, 1873 and 1872:—

State or Territory.	Opened in 1872.	Total January 1, 1873.	Opened in 1873	Total January 1, 1874.	Opened in 1874.	Total January 1, 1875.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Alabama	134	1,828	10	1,838	18	1,856
Arkansas	156	545	247	792	18	810
California	195	1,491	85	1,576	115	1,681
Colorado	105	551	111	662	23	685
Connecticut	25	898	29	927	...	927
Dakota Territory	210	223	81	304	...	304
Delaware	26	219	16	235	16	251
Florida	10	478	...	478	18	496
Georgia	46	2,180	99	2,279	...	2,279
Illinois	686	6,277	253	6,530	212	6,742
Indiana	183	3,705	65	3,770	206	3,976
Indian Territory	149	310	...	310	...	310
Iowa	452	3,640	93	3,733	34	3,767
Kansas	445	1,901	76	1,977	63	2,040
Kentucky	143	1,199	130	1,329	31	1,360
Louisiana	3	569	...	569	...	589
Maine	62	871	56	927	37	964
Massachusetts	87	1,625	113	1,738	27	1,765
Maryland and District of Columbia	190	931	34	965	12	977
Michigan	571	2,973	182	3,155	48	3,203
Minnesota	307	1,860	44	1,904	36	1,940
Mississippi	22	985	7	992	27	1,019
Missouri	314	2,769	236	3,005	31	3,036
Nebraska	212	1,170	50	1,120	...	1,120
Nevada	18	569	18	587	40	627
New Hampshire	43	822	48	870	45	915
New Jersey	103	1,343	41	1,384	39	1,323
New York	435	5,175	242	5,417	125	5,442
North Carolina	60	1,263	15	1,278	68	1,346
Ohio	457	4,108	131	4,239	142	4,482
Oregon	82	297	10	307	...	307
Pennsylvania	251	5,533	191	5,724	184	5,908
Rhode Island	...	134	22	156	14	170
South Carolina	88	1,290	88	1,378	...	1,370
Tennessee	15	1,522	114	1,636	...	1,636
Texas	391	877	480	1,560	75	1,635
Utah Territory	57	376	84	461	43	504
Vermont	31	741	53	794	5	799
Virginia	50	1,537	36	1,573	70	1,643
Washington Territory	40	65	40	105	6	111
West Virginia	76	561	36	597	...	597
Wisconsin	460	1,903	320	2,223	93	2,316
Wyoming Territory	...	459	...	459	...	459
United States and Territories	7,340	67,976	3,993	71,969	1,919	73,888

Proposed Inland Navigation Scheme.

Proposed Inland system of navigation.

This canal contemplates the free and uninterrupted egress and ingress of steam-barges, and any other character of river craft, from the remotest points of navigation in the Western valleys to harbours on the Atlantic coast without touching the sea, without stoppage, intermediate agencies, taxations, or tolls of any sort.

Professor Maury says: "As to the relative cost of railroad and water communication, every canal boat that comes to Albany with an average cargo from the West is more than the average of the New York Central Railway trains. But in the busy canal season more than 250 such boats come daily to tide water, and the New York Central traffic nearly reaches thirty trains a-day. Now such a canal traffic would make more than

twenty miles of uninterrupted railroad cars, which could not by any possibility be handled by the largest force of railway employés with expedition or convenience."

As to relative cost of transport, an instance is given of a case in point.

A Cincinnati steamer, with her tows laden with coal from Pittsburg, was passing down the Ohio River bound to New Orleans, distant from Pittsburg about 2,000 miles.

The cargo consisted of 336,000 bushels (weighing 13,440 tons). This coal was being transported to New Orleans at 5 cents per 100 lbs. At this very moderate rate the down trip would bring to the boat and barges 13,440 dollars, considered a remunerative trip by the owners.

Now, to have carried such a freight by rail would have demanded a force of fifty trains or 1,344 cars, with 10 tons each. At 200 dollars a car with 10 tons freight, to be carried 2,000 miles (which is even lower transportation than can be profitable on the railroads), this cargo would have amounted to 268,000 dollars, making a difference of more than 250,000 dollars on the transportation* of the cargo by one cheap steam-boat and her barges. . . . Strikingly corroborating the statements made by Professor Maury.

Returning emigrants from United States to Europe.

As nearly as may be calculated 44,000 immigrants returned from the United States to Europe in the year 1874. Mr. Archibald mentioned to me some months ago that at that time, on an average, a dozen applications were received at his office in New York daily from distressed British subjects, asking for free passages to England. The experience at this Legation and at the Consulates at Philadelphia and at Baltimore, in proportion to the population of Washington and of other cities, has been similar. It cannot be too widely known in England that no British subjects who may have come to the United States to better themselves are furnished with free return passages at the public expense. It cannot likewise be too much impressed on persons intend-

	Dollars.
* Cost by rail	268,000
„ water	13,440
Gain by water	254,560

ing to emigrate to this country that they have little chance of finding employment at the places where they may land on the coast, and that they should consequently in every case be furnished with the means of proceeding far into the interior, in other words with at least a sum equal to double the cost of their passage money from Europe to New York, exclusive of any sum meant to be expended during their stay at New York.

(Signed) R. G. WATSON.

Washington, March 15, 1875.

COMMERCIAL. No. 12 (1875).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES

OF

EMBASSY AND LEGATION

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, &c.,

OF THE

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.

Part IV.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
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Austria.

Proposed new Austrian Trade Laws: Translation of Report, with Remarks, by Mr. Ffrench, Her Majesty's Secretary of Embassy at Vienna.

Introduction.

Subjects relating to trade are those which, in nearly all civilized States, have occupied the attention of Parliaments and Governments; and amongst these, the questions of fixing the duration of working hours, of wages, of the keeping of holidays, of task work and piece work as compared to time work, have, ever since the 15th and 16th centuries, created endless controversies, which have generally been solved according to the spirit of the age.

In later times, however, the abolition of the ancient system of guilds and corporations, as well as of all monopoly of undivided property, new principles of association and credit, new inventions which are continually being made in machinery, alterations in the scope of activity as applied to trade on a large scale, these and others have created a series of radical changes by introducing a system of labour which comprehends the most minute sub-divisions, and which, inasmuch as it affects the physical, social, and economical conditions of the operative class, has necessitated the creation of a special legislation *ad hoc*.

Government concessions have, in modern times, replaced the system of guilds, whose patriarchal character was essentially exclusive. These concessions are made to depend upon the existing or actual conditions more especially when applicable to local requirements, and thus form an opening that may lead in course of time to full individual freedom in trading.

Thus, a natural state of complete independence will one day be acquired, but until such time as its proper

development can take place, it will be necessary to protect and control the theoretical liberty of all persons engaged in trade and industry, especially as regards the operative classes, in such a manner that at least a moderately tolerable existence may be so secured to them as to be a practical substitute for individual competition, and as to ensure their physical and economical welfare.

During the course of the last century, Austrian legislation has followed an exactly similar path leading to the above-mentioned system. Abandoning the monopoly of the guilds, which cramped and paralysed all action, Austria created, by means of "trade rights concessions," a transitory stepping stone, over which in 1859 she was able to pass to a system of complete trade emancipation.

But in the meantime, after the abolition of the coalition laws, the workmen became each year more important, and then the questions of the abolition of the laws for imprisonment for debt and for attachment of wages, and also the sanitary questions affecting certain trades and professions, became every day more prominent; the endless disputes which arise between the employer and the employed, together with the "trades' unions" formed among the working classes, all these demand and require a thoroughly systematic solution.

Thus it has been felt that a thorough reform of the existing legislation for trade and industry had become of imperative necessity, and the Government interpreting the national sentiment has prepared a so-called "Trading Code," after collecting, during a period of several years, the necessary materials which are embodied in it. This Code is to be made applicable to all circumstances and necessities connected with industry and trade callings, and will be presented to and discussed in the Reichsrath during the next Session.

I propose to give in the following pages the detailed articles of this Reform Bill, which I have procured with considerable difficulty, but which may prove highly interesting to a commercial and industrial country like Great Britain.

The Law before us treats not only, as is the case in England, of certain trades or industry, but comprehends every existing branch of business throughout the country

without distinctions or classes. Whether the object be the construction of traffic in merchandize, commercial undertakings, service, or operatives, it comprises one and all.

It must necessarily happen that, owing to special notions which are entertained on trade operations sometimes mixed up and confused by political causes, a certain number of employments do not come under the denomination of these "Trade Regulations," and are either free individual occupations or else are governed by special Laws.

Of these are more particularly—

1. Land and forestal produce, and the labour or employment accessory to such, insomuch as they bear relation to the manufacture of and trading in their own produce; moreover the rights of owners of orchards and vineyards prevail in some of the Provinces, ancient regulations being retained with respect to the manner of dealing with the produce of which they are the proprietors.

2. Mining and such mining works as pertain to concessions made by the mining authorities.

3. Public and private domestics.

4. Literary occupations. The copyrights of authors and the exercise of the fine arts.

5. The wages of day labourers and servants.

6. Persons coming under the denomination of household servants, and executing common household service.

7. The profession of lawyers, notaries, commercial brokers, engineers, and such persons as are specially appointed to their several callings and duties by competent authorities; in addition to these, all undertakings in private business which are not commercial.

8. The practice of medicine. The management of hospitals, of any kind of poor-houses, asylums for the insane, also bathing establishments, hydropathic and mineral water establishments, medical sanatoriums, apothecaries, veterinary surgeons, including cow-doctors.

9. The emolument received by private tuition and from all institutions having reference to education.

10. The "trading employments" in all public institutions, whether they be of a charitable, educational, penitential, or correctional nature.

11. All enterprises such as institutions for credit,

banks, insurance offices, endowed institutions, and savings banks.

12. Railways, steam navigation, and private telegraph works.

13. The management of "sea shipping," as also of fisheries, which come under the rules and regulations of maritime law.

14. The undertaking to make bridges or ferries on rivers, lakes, and canals, as well as swimming and floating raft establishments.

15. Theatres and public places of amusement of all description.

16. The publication and sale of periodicals.

17. Hawking, pedlaring, and all itinerant trade.

All the above-mentioned persons and occupations, insomuch as their operations cannot be carried on with perfect freedom, are to remain subjected to the existing regulations. It is also to be clearly understood that the State monopolies and Royal prerogatives pertaining to the Crown, as well as the existing rights of proprietors in certain Provinces, are not to be affected by this "Trade Law." They have certain limits to their management of the same which depend upon the Departments of Police and Finance. In like manner the rights secured to proprietors of inventions and improvements thereon by the "Law of Privileges" are not to be modified by it.

This Law further prescribes that such rights as are incumbent on the possession of real estate are no longer to be granted, whereas such "real estate trade rights" as exist from time immemorial, and are fixed and saleable, are to remain unchanged.

This new Project of Law is divided into nine parts, containing 125 sections.

Part I (Sections 1 to 14) contains the general conditions of independent management of trade.

Part II (Sections 15 to 24) comprises all that is essential for the establishment of trade organization.

Part III (Sections 25 to 42) treats of the extension and the abrogation of all matters pertaining to trade privileges.

Part IV (Sections 43 to 48) regulates all market transactions.

Part V (Sections 49 to 52) treats of trade associations.

Part VI (Sections 53 to 97) includes all conditions with respect to assistance to be given to different trades. Also all questions relating to apprentices, journeymen, and operatives in general.

Part VII (Sections 98 to 105) fixes the Regulations for the funds or savings of working men.

Parts VIII and IX (Sections 106 to 112 and Sections 113 to 125) contain respectively, first, the penalties or punishments; secondly, the process by which the laws are to be enforced, as also the designation of the competent authorities in all "trade cases."

To enter more fully into the details of these parts and sections:—

Part I contains the principles of trade regulations, and enacts in Section 1, that all trades may be carried on independently without the necessity of a concession from the ordinary authorities if a simple notice thereof be previously given.

A natural consequence of this principle is that the only condition made necessary for entering into a trade is the simple right of self-administration of the property belonging to you, and this without distinction as to sex or to the relations with any community or parish.

If, however, an individual be not entitled to the self-administration of his property, it still becomes possible for him to pursue a trade or calling, with the consent of his guardian or trustee and that of the judicial authorities.

Exception to this principle is only to be found in the two following cases: first, when the callings or office undertaken are inconsistent with the position of the parties concerned, as in the case of monks, officers of the army, and State officials, to whom it is forbidden to carry on any trade calling; secondly, wherever an individual has been convicted of any crime, either for pecuniary advantage or against public morality, or in cases of fraudulent bankruptcy, and if from the peculiar conditions of the trade, or the personal circumstances connected with the undertaking, any abuse can reasonably be suspected, the applicant is to be excluded, not only from this particular branch, but from all other

trades where the aim or object of the law can be defeated.

As regards the position of foreigners they are to be received (provided that formal reciprocity exists on the part of the State to which they belong) on a footing of perfect equality with the natives.

Should such reciprocity not exist they will require a formal permission from the proper authorities, and further some occupations exercised by foreigners are placed under special regulations.

In spite, however, of the entire freedom of trade industry contained in the new statutes, it is yet in certain cases fettered by certain conditions of a sanitary, moral, and "police" nature. Any applicant wishing to carry on trade must show that he is perfectly within the conditions prescribed before receiving the document which authorises him to carry it on. (This document is not exactly a permit, but rather an acknowledgment of notice having been given.)

The following industrial occupations are here enumerated:—

1. All transport service for passengers.
2. Coach and carriage trade commissioners and servants in hotels.
3. Proprietors of ships on inland waters.
4. Builders, masons, stone-cutters, well-sinkers, carpenters.
5. Chimney-sweeps.
6. Scavengers.
7. Flayers.
8. Manufacturers of fire-arms and ammunition.
9. Manufacturers of fire-works, shells, and torpedoes.
10. Old clothes shops and pawnbrokers.
11. Trading in poisons and medical drugs.
12. Inn-keepers and public-houses.
13. Manufactures of gas.
14. The retail of petroleum.
15. Establishments for the construction of weights and measures (public).
16. The procuration of servants and other situations.
17. Farriers.
18. Poison for the extermination of vermin.

The above are the "trade undertakings" at present

to be dealt with; but they are to be increased or diminished according as circumstances may require by the competent authorities, who will be empowered to act and to make regulations "over the heads" of the Chambers of Commerce.

The statute requires that the commencement of any of the above-named trades be conditional, and on the responsibility of the trader, especially for those coming under sections 3, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18, for which they must show an especial fitness, and for such as come under sections 2, 5, 14, 17, 18, that no objection shall exist to them as to not being in accordance with the police regulations for public safety, health, decency, and security against fire.

Unfortunately, the provisions of the statute contain no definition of the manner in which such responsibility is to be proved, and it leaves this, as well as the execution of the rules to future administrative regulation. It is, therefore, clear that the whole project is open to severe criticism, for the definition of "responsibility" becomes precisely similar to the one contained in the former statute, under the name of "irreproachability," a word of purely negative meaning. In the present law, it appears that everyone is "responsible" who has not been proved "irresponsible."

It must be borne in mind that these terms are used with respect to persons who are about to undertake a trade or calling independent of any master; therefore, such reliability can only be proved by the testimony of a former patron or principal.

It may be further remarked that the industrial qualities of an operative often embrace but certain sections of a trade, without proving anything in favour of his judgment or reliability.

The qualifications required are much the same as in other countries, such as special technical knowledge and practical execution of the work to be performed, which can only result from an experience of several years, or, in other cases, a perfect knowledge of the legal regulations, to be tested and approved in both cases in the general public interest.

The guarantees required by the police are abolished. In all former regulations, this special security existed, and arose out of local circumstances and local necessities,

also the limitation made by the authorities with respect to competition has been done away with, not appearing to be now compatible with the principles of freedom in trade. In short, whosoever is desirous of carring on a trade in Austria must give notice thereof to the authorities of the place where he resides, announcing his wishes and intentions, after which, if all legal requisites be complied with, he receives a written permission, and in virtue of such can commence the exercise of his calling.

Should any obstacle, however, present itself, the authorities are bound to give notice of the same within eight days for ordinary, and within six weeks for exceptional trades, informing the applicant that he cannot enter upon his trade until such obstacles be removed and the permission issued.

Part II contains the rules which are to regulate the permissions for undertaking and working a trade; this permission being essential for all trades carried on by means of fire-stoves, steam-engines, water-wheels, all operations that entail danger, or that may influence health by poisonous odours, or unusual noise, that may be a nuisance to neighbours, and especially in the vicinity of churches, schools, hospitals, or any public institution or building, where these might be thereby affected.

It is probable that this regulation will possess considerable elasticity, and, indeed, cannot be compared with any corresponding example in England, where less regard is paid to the convenience of a neighbourhood. It must, therefore, be considered as a homage paid to the "customs of the country," and owing to the minority in which traders and manufacturers find themselves, showing that the "Veniam damus petimusque vicissim" is not generally understood.

The establishments demanding special concessions, and subject to the more stringent regulations, are numerous, and will continually increase, owing to the daily improvement in science and chemistry.

At present the law comprehends the following :—

1. Flaying-houses.
2. Establishments for the making of fireworks and torpedoes.
3. Match factories.

4. Powder factories.
5. Tallow melters.
6. Candle makers.
7. Soap boilers.
8. Glue manufacturers.
9. Varnish and turpentine manufacturers.
10. Manufactures from Alkali.
11. Bone bleachers.
12. Bone boilers.
13. Bone crushers.
14. Bone-burning kilns.
15. Oil-cloth factories.
16. Bleaching works.
17. Flax and hemp dressing.
18. Manufactories of catgut.
19. Zinc, arsenic, lead, and copper works.
20. Muriatic acid manufactories.
21. Sulphuric acid manufactories.
22. Vitriol manufactories.
23. Sal-ammoniac manufactories.
24. Glue works.
25. Coal-tar works.
26. Pitch and resin works.
27. Lime kilns.
28. Plaster of Paris kilns.
29. Soot kilns.
30. Gas factories.
31. Glass-blowers.
32. Petroleum refineries.
33. Nail smithies (forges).
34. Pottery kilns.
35. Sugar-boiling houses.
36. Chemical works.
37. Oil mills.
38. Tanneries.
39. Slaughter-houses.
40. Tripe-boiling establishments.
41. Roofing and roofing-felt fabrics.
42. Wood-staining establishments.
43. Pitch-boiling.
44. Boiler factories.
45. Metal-casting trades.
46. All waterworks.

Under the existing state of things, a very compli-

cated mode of proceeding is necessary in order to work any of the above-mentioned trades; this has to be done through a series of commissions and negotiations, an estimation being made of the general welfare of the public, the rights and exigencies of neighbours, &c.

The authorities, previous to forming their judgment or taking a decision, have often to refer private claims to the competent Courts, being guided by the opinions of experts, and then either issue the concession with its necessary limits and conditions, or else refuse or postpone the same, and this procedure is carried on, not only at the setting up of a factory or trade, but is repeated at every change that may take place in the working or management of the same, and may seriously injure the interests of its proprietor.

The concession once granted it becomes permanent, even in the case of the establishment changing hands or the trade remaining in abeyance.

The new law is more severe in its provisions for such cases, but a hope is prevalent that the Government will concede these two points, or modify them. An interruption of three years is the utmost limit allowed by the new project.

The most important principle introduced by the Government in the new law, and non-existant in the present statutes, is that of obligatory purchase, on grounds of public welfare, of works that already exist.

In former times, when circumstances arose which caused any established and duly authorized undertaking to be considered dangerous or annoying, the concession was simply withdrawn and the works stopped, the factory was closed, and the proprietor probably ruined, and the practice of this became more frequent in proportion as the towns increased and encroached, spreading their buildings in the vicinity of the works which thus became obnoxious.

According to the now existing laws, it was and is quite impossible for a proprietor of works to obtain compensation, owing to the absence of any statute recognizing the rights of trade to such.

The new project clearly defines and provides for this defect in the former one, but it still gives power to the authorities to prohibit, on grounds of public welfare, any established industry, on condition of giving a

recompense or compensation to the owner, if he can prove that he has not created the dangers and nuisances by any arbitrary modification of his working system, and that these cannot be removed by the adoption of precautionary measures.

This compensation is to be derived either from the community, the district, or from the country, according as the prohibition takes place, in the interests of the said community, or those of the district, or of the country.

The Political Authorities are to decide this point, as also by whom the compensation is to be paid. The Law Courts are to settle the amount of the sum to be given as compensation.

The new law is to be made retrospective on this point, and will, therefore, be applicable to all establishments now existing.

Part III. This division treats specially the extent and practice of the rights of trade; the former being defined by the terms of the permit, and the latter by the rules laid down in common law.

As a matter of course, every trader possesses the right of combining all the works that are required for the manufacture of his proposed production, as well as of employing any other trades to the same end, and to trade with his own or similar productions made by other manufacturers.

Traders may also establish within the limits of their premises several warehouses and workshops, or transfer these to other parts of the parish, or beyond the parish, by simply giving previous notice and subjecting these changes to the general rules prescribed by the statute. The articles fabricated may be supplied indistinctively to all persons who carry about these on sale or on commission. They may accept all orders and execute the same indiscriminately. But in cases where a trade not carried on in fixed premises is transferred with its works to the district of another authority, it is to be there considered as the foundation of a new trade, without excluding, however, the quality of technical ability which may be tendered and counted.

The traders are entitled to use a suitable brand and trade mark at all their establishments, and to make use of all means for advertising their produce.

All these privileges, while apparently but in accordance with the spirit of free trade, as also with the prescribed legal conditions, are made prominent in the project, partly on account of the contrast which they offer when compared with the former limited privileges granted to traders, and partly from administrative and fiscal considerations, without rendering the main principle of freedom in trade questionable.

The statutes of this Law have not dealt with the important question of regulating prices upon the progressive economical system of modern times, but have decided that, in retailing such articles of produce as are necessary to daily maintenance, a fixed price is to be regulated by the authorities; but in cases of personal services, such as of chimney-sweeps, commissioners, porters, the regulation is conditional. However reasonable it may be to fix or limit these above-named occupations, it yet appears utterly irrational to retain the obsolete system of "fixed prices by competent authority" in such matters as the price of meat, bread, &c., and it is doubtful whether this article of the proposed Law will be passed in the Chamber.

There is another regulation respecting these articles ordaining that their price shall be advertised in all places where they are sold, as well as in all hotels and eating-houses. This appears, in the public interest, to be a desirable measure, inasmuch as it does not prevent a change in the market value, but only prescribes that notice be given to the authorities and the same promulgated. Another ordinance equally reasonable is that butchers, bakers, and chimney-sweeps shall not be allowed to quit their callings without giving due notification of their intention to do so, at least a month previously, in order that the authorities may be in a position to avert what may become a public calamity.

Pawnshops, slopshops, and offices for servants are to be placed under certain regulations with regard to the keeping of their books, for reasons of public safety and morality.

As every manufacturer can, and some are obliged, to manage their business through substitutes or delegates, the Law enacts conditions of capacity from these equal to that of the proprietors, and they must invariably be named to the authorities.

The privilege of trading being a personnal one, due notice must be given whenever the business changes hands, whether from a private arrangement or owing to the death of the proprietor.

The only exception to this is where the trade or business is carried on in the interest of creditors, in cases of bankruptcy, of widows or minors who may inherit, and all heirs or legatees.

If it be that at the outset, or any time subsequently, a trader has continually given proofs of incapacity for his calling, his business can be prohibited and his permit recalled.

In the so-called "police trades," that is to say, trades under the supervision of the police—such as those mentioned in sections 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 12—the permit can be withdrawn if the trade has not been commenced within six months of its having been granted, or if it should be discontinued for six months. Special rules will also govern the professions of hawkers, pedlars, and traffic across or beyond the boundaries.

Division 4 regulates all market traffic, and the dispositions have been carried over from the old Law into the new statute almost unaltered. The weekly and annual fairs, which are gradually vanishing before the great increase of business and commerce, still retain a certain importance with regard to the traffic in certain articles, such as leather, hops, wool, and others of raw materials.

The regulations for market traffic may be summed up in the following :—

An approved market ordinance or regulation preventing parishes from exacting higher dues than what may be necessary to cover the special expenses of the market.

That market traffic is never to become a source of income.

That the taxation be perfectly equal for all, including strangers or foreigners.

Division 5 is very important, as it regulates the trade combinations, but it is doubtful whether in this detail the Government proposal will be accepted.

In former times the guilds exercised complete disciplinary power over the members of their especial trade,

that the admission of all new members was decided by them, thus limiting and binding each trade.

These restrictions and limitations had to give way before the economical necessities of the people, and the Government shook the whole system to its foundations by conceding trade privileges independently of the guilds. Many of the trades were then declared to be completely free, the guilds were abolished or became obsolete, and other corporations were established, which exist in Austria up to the present time.

These were established with the view of preventing the proper conditions on which different trades should be carried on from collapsing, of creating centres and places of meeting for discussing the common interests of the trading community by preserving discipline and regularity among its members, and at the same time looking after their social and educational development.

Their obligations, therefore, were :—

1. To maintain and enforce the regulation of relations between members of the association and their workmen, especially as regarded wages and service.

2. To settle all disputes.

3. The founding, fostering, and supervision of technical schools.

4. To create institutions for the assistance of members and workmen in cases of sickness or urgent distress.

5. To procure information and reports for the authorities and the Chambers of Commerce.

6. To participate in all measures of public management, which have reference to the whole body of the trade association.

The associations situated within the district of a Chamber of Commerce and embracing several different trades, were called "compulsory associations," because everyone who entered one of these trades became, *ipso facto*, whether he wished it or not, a member of this body, and this whether master or workman.

It appears that, in most cases, these combinations and associations disappointed the expectations that had been made, and failed to give the advantages that were to have been reaped from them. The societies that were formed on a system of mutual independence attained

their aim with far greater and more practical success; the members, because they founded loan unions without reference to association, and the operatives through their savings banks and the societies formed amongst themselves.

This was not sufficient for the settlement of disputes, so the power of coalition was granted to both sides, and Courts of Appeal were established, formed on the model of the French Conseils des Prud'hommes.

The erection of schools was left to the Government or to different educational societies, because the associations simply did nothing beyond forming some offices, "bureaux of information," which they handed over to the authorities. It is not surprising, therefore, that so soon as they had shown signs of vitality they should have been considered unworthy of existence, and their abolition was commenced in 1859 by the very legislature which had called them into existence in 1859.

The political questions and revolutions with which Austria has been troubled during the present century, left her but little leisure for carrying out the necessary reforms in her political economy, but the dissolution of all the guilds having been decreed by Parliament as far back as in 1869, they are now proceeding with the execution of these decrees.

The Project of Law now before us shows that the true view of matters has not yet penetrated into the minds of those who have formed it, and that there is still a tendency to retain a series of measures and institutions which no longer possess conditions of vitality and which must give way before the modern necessities of economical existence.

The proposed statute regulates the trade associations after the following manner:—

Associations of "traders" for the purpose of mutual encouragement, and with an economical object, are to be dealt with by the new Association Laws, whether founded by individuals, or by operatives, or by a master in partnership with his operatives, but these associations will not be made obligatory.

These associations, by permission from the authorities, may form combinations of a higher class, called unions, and their privilege will be defined by a special statute.

The position of the corporations now extant is to be defined and settled by the Association Laws, as also the nature of their official functions. Their rules and regulations must be sent in to the authorities within six months of the promulgation of the new statute.

Members of these corporations may withdraw from them, except where they have made engagements already laid down in the rules, and they must forfeit any claim upon the funds or accumulated wealth of the associations.

The following regulations must be inserted in the statutes of every "Trades Union Association:"—

1. The admission fee must be one and the same for each member.

2. Every trader is to be admitted into the association after his discharge by the Court of Bankruptcy, provided he shall have satisfied his creditors, or has fully complied with the provisions of the law, and renewed his right to trade.

3. The same regulation stands good in criminal cases, provided the punishment has been undergone and completed.

4. The privileges of a trader are to pass on to his widow or heirs, if they choose to carry on the trade.

5. If the association should liquidate or be dissolved then the capital is to be appropriated to the payment of its debts, and, when it has been originally founded for educational purposes or for any other public use, it is not to be applied to any other purpose.

If there be no specified employment for the balance that remains, it is to be handed over to the parish to which the association belongs, and applied to the creation of technical schools for the benefit of the community, and under the direction of the authorities.

However much the principle may be approved of replacing associations with compulsory admission and fixed sphere of action by free "unions," to which the largest concessions with respect to entry and extension of powers will be granted, and however great may be the advantage of general association laws over special regulations, it appears, nevertheless, extraordinarily anomalous that, by the side of the total independence which is promulgated as a prominent principle

in the new statute, it should be set forth that "the existing corporations must continue to exist as independent unions."

It would be interesting to ascertain what will be the position of the Government and how they would act if the members of one of the now existing associations should decline to exist as a "union," and resign their position as members, which, according to the statute, they are undoubtedly entitled to do.

It is equally inadmissible that formal regulations for the admission of members should be prescribed to an "independent union;" a free union must assuredly be empowered to regulate the statutes about its own federation, and there can be no just grounds whatever for forcing them to accept bankrupts and convicts or any others, in virtue of rights of inheritance.

If we admit the existence of two such forms of union what will the consequence be?

It is manifest from these regulations that the Government starts from a supposition, perhaps from a desire, that some particular independent union will spring up out of each separate association, a theory which cannot be justified by facts.

In consequence of this idea having absorbed the framers of the new Statute Law, it will be understood why no necessary regulations have been made for dealing with the division of the capital belonging to the existing corporations, their outstanding debts, nor the charitable or other purposes for which they were created.

This was all the more essential, as, after the abolition of these associations, the separation between masters and workmen (the latter being at present obligatory members), must ensue; and also because a large number of incorporated establishments have been founded in the interests of the operatives.

It may be said that nothing practical can come out of these dispositions, as the simple abolition of the existing corporations leaves to the members who shall exist at the moment of their dissolution the full enjoyment of the arrangements, the capital to be given eventually to their respective parishes for the general interests of trade.

The most probable result will be that the operatives

will place themselves under the wing of the "union rights."

Division 6. This is decidedly the most important division of the Statute, as it regulates the relative rights and position of the working man in all those questions which are daily being agitated.

Thus, with regard to the measures to be adopted for insuring workmen against danger, to their lives or to their health in the execution of their work; the limiting of working hours, protection for youth of both sexes, and especially to prevent the females from overtaxing their strength. The extent of the duties of the trade masters over the technical improvements of the juvenile operatives, the legal protection of the workmen against any possible arrears of wages, the establishment of trade and manufactory inspectors for carrying out all the rules prescribed; the formation of courts of reference and arbitration, for the settlement of personal and corporative disputes between masters and workmen.

These are problems which must be taken into consideration and solved by the Legislature of every State in Europe.

On examining carefully the details of these regulations, we find that the chief principle in the manner of dealing with the legal relations between employers and employed, is intended to consist in the formation of free and independent agreements between the two within the limits prescribed by the law.

It is only where no such contract exists that the decisions—first, of the trade law; secondly, of common law; and finally, of received custom, are to come severally into force.

With regard to the different classes of workmen, the law recognizes journeymen operatives and apprentices, and designates under the title of factories all larger trade undertakings as commonly employ more than twenty persons of both sexes in their workshops.

This definition is imperfect and rather illogical, as the undertaking may vary in size and numbers, according to circumstances; and it is practically difficult to fix the limits of it; moreover, it does not appear that any legal conclusions can be deduced from it.

It goes on to treat of—

(*a.*) The individuals who are to fill the higher grades of the service, such as managers, mechanics, factors, book-keepers, cashiers, designers, and chemists (for industrial purposes.

(*b.*) A second category, such as porters and labourers in heavy work. Finally—

(*c.*) All those who perform domestic offices in trading establishments, but who are not counted among the labourers.

Even these distinctions in the Statute are not accurate, and will be difficult to carry out. As regards the higher ranks of service, the precise meaning appears to be so indefinite and vague that it will give rise to frequent doubts and disputes; the more so as the law quotes them only as *exempli gratia*.

The application also of "coarser works," as applied to manufactures, is difficult both as to its definition and to limit; neither can there be any just cause or reason for dividing workmen engaged in trades (in "coarse" or "fine" work) into two categories, the one enjoying the protection of the trade laws, and the other having no claim to it. The assistant workmen and day labourers, who stand side by side with the journeymen and operatives (and form a co-operative power), and who take their daily part in the general work of the factory, do not appear to have a less solid claim to be considered as operatives. Even those who perform domestic service in a trading institution consider themselves, when not actually engaged for the personal service of the proprietor, in the light of operatives. It would be perfectly equitable, therefore, that all persons engaged in regular service in these trading establishments should be legally classed as operatives, whereas those belonging to the higher rank of service, in receipt of monthly or annual salaries, and those who are engaged but temporarily, should not be accounted as such.

With regard to operatives, the law obliges every master to establish and maintain at his own expense all such arrangements as, in accordance with the nature of his business, are necessary for the protection and security of his operatives with respect to health and danger of life.

They are enjoined also to provide all journeymen in

their employment with healthy and thoroughly habitable premises.

Any neglect of these rules is to be punished by the sanitary laws, and any injury or damage sustained by a workman, when proved that they came not from personal negligence, are to be paid by the master, if the expenses of his support are not covered by the "aid fund compensation."

With respect to the hours of work, these are to be regulated solely for women, youths, and children, adult male workmen being free to make any agreement they choose, and the same being legal. Thus, the Statute enacts :—

(1.) That children under twelve years of age shall not be taken or employed in regular operations.

(2.) That children between twelve and fourteen may be employed in trading establishments on condition that the employer shall bind himself to keep them up to the fulfilment of their school duties, and that their employment shall not exceed six hours daily.

(3.) Male operatives between fourteen and sixteen years of age, as also girls and women, are not to be allowed to work more than ten hours per diem.

The longest extension that the authorities are empowered to grant over and above the hours mentioned, is to be of one hour, and this never exceeding a period of four weeks, and then only in cases where unforeseen cause or accident has interrupted the regular working, or brought about an increased demand for labour.

Between working hours the youths, *i.e.*, boys up to sixteen, and girls to eighteen years of age, are to be given one leisure hour at noon, and a pause of half an hour during the forenoon and in the afternoon, in order to take exercise in the open air. The working hours for these, and for all women, are to be between 5 o'clock A.M. and 9 o'clock P.M.

Should the execution of these new rules materially affect or injure any trade establishments actually existing, the authorities have power to admit of certain exceptions for a limited period not exceeding the term of one year.

These new Regulations form a decided improvement on the former ones affecting the work of youths of both

sexes. They are much more severe, and will, it is hoped, be rigorously enforced, which was not the case formerly.

These Regulations will, however, become subject to manifold attacks in their respective circles by both employers and employed: by the masters, because Austrian industrial works are dependent upon cheap labour, which will be in a certain degree counteracted by the shortening of the time for working; and by the workmen, because as a rule they desire fixed working hours even for adults, and wish to eradicate females and juveniles, because these latter increase the facilities for cheap labour.

Without dwelling upon the rights of one or the other, it may be said that the weak point of this law consists in its dealing two much in generalities, and that in this respect the English laws are in the long run far more efficacious.

If the details in the execution of this Article are to be left to Administrative regulation, the Statute ought to state clearly that children under ten years of age should never, under any circumstances whatsoever, be employed in factories. Certain rules should likewise have been laid down with regard to women in a state of pregnancy, and the weekly amount of hours of work so regulated that one day in the week at least be devoted to rest. Furthermore, the time fixed for juveniles, women, and children, should not extend from 5 A.M. until 9 P.M., but should be restricted to twelve hours, say from 6 A.M. until 6 P.M., and on Saturday from 6 A.M. until 4 P.M.

The condition that is mentioned which makes the trade master responsible for the regular attendance at school of the children, and compels him to find time and opportunity for developing and improving their technical knowledge, becomes incumbent on him through the law of compulsory education which prevails throughout Austria.

For personal lists of the working classes, the regulations now existing as to police reports are to be observed with regard to the ingress and egress of the workmen, but the so-called "service books" are to be abolished.

In factories, however, a correct list of all the opera-

tives is to be kept, with their names, ages, their abode, the nature of their employment, wages, which must be shown to the authorities.

The younger working boys will be supplied with a record book containing a copy of this law to be supplied to them by the head of their parish, on application being made by their parents or guardians; and before obtaining employment or entering upon a trade they shall present the same to the trade-master. This record book must also contain the name, age, and religion of the young operative, those of his parents or guardians, testimonies of his attendance at school, a medical certificate as to his physical fitness for the employment he shall have chosen, a formula of the school regulations, and of those of the trade he is about to undertake. This record book is to remain in the hands of the proprietor or trade-master, and is to be exhibited to the authorities whenever they may require it, and is finally to be returned to the parents or guardians of the operative whenever he leaves his place of employment.

A "factory regulation form" must be hung up in every factory, showing:—

(*a.*) Rules as to the execution of work to be done by the different classes of operatives, especially as regards women and young people; also rules with regard to education.

(*b.*) Also rules for the duration of the working hours and those of relaxation.

(*c.*) For the settlement of accounts and payment of wages.

(*d.*) About the privileges of adult workmen.

(*e.*) As to the treatment of the operatives in cases of accident or illness.

(*f.*) As to the obligations encumbent on the workmen to form part of an "aid" society.

(*g.*) About certain contingent wages, deductions, and fines to be paid if any of the factory rules are violated, and how the same are to be applied.

(*h.*) Showing the cases of terms of notice, &c., where the relations or contracts between the master and his operatives can be cancelled or dissolved.

A duplicate of these factory regulations is to be laid before the trade authorities, whose duty it will be to see that they contain nothing contrary to law.

The fines, and the mode of applying them, are to be entered in a register, which must be kept open for the inspection of the authorities.

With respect to the payment of wages, it is decreed by the Statute, that they can only be given in ready money; but the masters are at liberty to procure or furnish lodging, fuel, medicine, tools, and necessary appliances for manufacturing purposes to their operatives, these to be deducted from their wages. In special cases the authorities can give leave for the issue of food on account of wages.

Proprietors of fabrics, managers, overseers, &c., are strictly forbidden to give goods, and more especially intoxicating liquors, on account as wages, to their working men.

Operatives who have been paid otherwise than in cash, can at any time claim the entire payment of their dues without an objection of "goods paid in kind" being filed against them; but such goods, if they be found in the possession of the operative, and be enriched by them, are to be forfeited for the benefit of the "aid" fund, or else for the "poor-box" of the parish in which the "trade" is carried on. Any contract made without these stipulations is to be null and void, as also any verbal agreement which may be made between masters and workmen, stipulating that the necessaries of life are to be bought in any specified place, or the application of earnings to any specified purpose.

Claims for goods credited to an operative (irrespectively of this prohibition), by master or any parties in the same position, cannot be sued for, or such claims be enforced, either directly or indirectly.

Together with these comes the abolition of the deplorable truck system, and crediting of goods and intoxicating liquors, which for so long has been a source of ruin to the operatives in this country, who not only made free use of it, but in many branches of trade were compelled to do so unless they ran the risk of losing their work and chances of livelihood.

As regards the legal relations between masters and operatives, the law divides the latter into two categories: 1. Workmen; 2. Apprentices; regulating their respective positions in a different manner.

Operatives are bound to obey all orders from their

employers, or his representatives, with regard to the work with which they have been entrusted, and in reference to their employer's domestic arrangements.

They cannot be compelled to perform domestic service.

If all arrangements has not been made with regard to the work, duration of services, pay, giving notice, then the conditions of weekly payments, and fortnightly notices, must be assumed as a basis; in all other respects the parties must be bound by habits and customs of the place in which they reside.

On the other hand, all masters are bound to give a certificate on leaving to their operatives, which shall contain particulars as to the nature of their employment, the duration of the same, the moral conduct of the operative, and the value of his services.

A fine is imposed upon all those who do not comply with this instruction.

Relations between masters and operatives can be cancelled before the ordinary termination of their agreement, on the following grounds :—

On the part of the employer—

1. When the operative proves to be absolutely useless.

2. Should he be guilty of theft or embezzlement.

3. If he carries on private business of his own, which interferes with his undertaking.

4. When he declines to fulfil his duties, incites others to insubordination, or leads them into disorderly or illegal conduct.

5. If he should be scurrilous, or commit a bodily assault, or threaten his employer, or his comrades, or carry about fire and lights, contrary to previous order.

6. If he be incapacitated from work owing to his own negligence, or when an accidental inability to work continues over a term of four weeks.

7. When he has been committed to prison for more than eight days.

On the part of the operative—

(1.) When he cannot continue to work without prejudice to his health.

(2.) If his master makes use of scurrilous or abusive language towards him, or those in connection with him.

(3.) When his master tries to incite him to illict or immoral acts.

(4.) When his master withholds his wages, or violates any essential condition of the contract.

(5.) When the master declines, or is prevented from giving proper employment to him.

If an operative should leave his employer, without legal ground for so doing, before the expiration of his contract, he can be punished, and forced to return to his work until the completion of his term. Any other employer who wittingly engages such an operative is made liable to punishment, and to the payment of an indemnity.

Illegal dissolution of contracts, of any complications which may result in the discharge of the workman, are to be judged by Common Law.

With regard to apprentices, all such as enter an independent trading factory, for the purpose of practically learning a trade, are to be considered as such without distinction as to pay or remuneration for work. Should any master become guilty of violating the regulations in the treatment of apprentices, should he be considered unworthy of trust, or be convicted of any crime or offence against Common Law or public morality, then he is to be debarred from taking apprentices, or keeping those who may already be in his employment.

The acceptance of apprentices must be based upon a formal agreement containing the conditions on which he is to be accepted, the way in which he is to be treated, and, specially, the duration of his apprenticeship.

This document must be left in the hands of the authorities.

Custom, either local or general, must decide the period, and sometimes a term of four years is fixed as a limit. A copy of the contract is to be recorded in the apprentice book above-mentioned, and at the first outset a limited trial, not extending over more than two months, may be stipulated for, at the end of which period either party may cancel the contract.

The following obligations are incumbent on the apprentice:—Obedience, fidelity, trustworthiness, decent behaviour, and usefulness at his trade. An apprentice, being a minor, must also be subjected to the house

discipline of his master, who, on his part, is bound to watch over him, and see that he is properly cared for in sickness, and to give him the same assistance which the law prescribes for the treatment of servants.

The master must also develop the technical faculties of his apprentices, and not distract them from such by other work. He must keep them diligently employed and look after their morality and their attendance at the prescribed schools. He must abstain from ever ill-treating them or permitting others to do so; and in cases of illness he must advise their parents or guardians thereof.

The contract with apprentices expires when either party becomes unable to fulfil its obligations by the dissolution of the concern or through any of the following motives:—

By the master:—

1. If the apprentice commits any act which may be considered justifiable in the other operatives, but which has been forbidden to him under threat of punishment.

2. If he be of doubtful ability or manifestly unfit for the requirement of the trade.

3. If he should be ill for more than six weeks.

4. If he should commit any fault entailing more than one month's imprisonment.

By the apprentice:—

1. If the master should grossly neglect his duties, or if he should incite the apprentice to any illegal or immoral act or abuse of his privilege of domestic discipline.

2. If the master should be imprisoned for more than a month, without making proper provision for the sustenance of the apprentice.

3. When the trade of the master shall have been closed by order of the authorities.

4. When the master transfers his factory to another parish.

Apprentices may also leave their situations if they change their calling and pass on to some other trade, or if they can maintain themselves, or if necessary to support their parents or to the management of their affairs, on giving notice a fortnight previously.

Should the trade be discontinued their claims to

indemnity or for the fulfilment of mutual obligations must be regulated by the general Civil Code.

Furthermore, any apprentice who runs away, and any master who takes him, knowing that he has done so, the former is to be punished, and the latter held liable towards the original master for any damage or loss that he may have sustained, as also to restore the apprentice upon demand.

On the dissolution of the relations between master and apprentice, the former must furnish the latter with a testimonial containing statements as to the time passed in his service, his behaviour, and attainments. This testimonial is to be entered into the work-book, and attested by the authorities of the place.

Trade and factory inspectors (to be considered as public officials) are to be appointed for the supervision of all the regulations contained in the new statute. They are to have free access to all trade works or factories, at all times and hours, and without any previous notice being given.

The extent of the rights and duties of these inspectors will be determined by Decrees.

Finally, the Trade Courts (Conseils des Prud'-hommes), still existing in Austria, will be designated as a means of settling all disputes between the employers and the employed, as the obligatory unions aforementioned, to whom all personal conflicts were referred, are now abolished. Where, however, such Courts do not exist the ordinary Trade Courts are to be the competent Tribunal.

These have reference solely to disputes between individuals, but as the workmen, more especially since the abolition of the Law on Combination, have not only personal, but also class interests to contend for, and use all means, including that of strikes, in order to enforce their claims, Arbitration Courts are to be established, in which these matters may be satisfactorily settled.

The eighth division treats of the institution denominated "trade aid treasuries" (a mutual assistance fund).

It is probable that this division represents the weakest point of the statute, both in regard to principle and to practice, and it is extremely difficult to understand the legal point of view and the object in perspec-

tive entertained by the lawyers who drew up this Article, for the principle of a system of free and independent transactions does not appear to be impressed upon the minds of the Government, who, while sceptical as to the valuable results that may be obtained from them, seems to have doubts with regard to wisdom of its own guardianship. Therefore, when abandoning the former state of things, it accepts timidly the new forms of association—it takes a middle path, which may not prove to be either satisfactory or opportune.

This progressive reform might perhaps be justified in theory when considered with reference to special Austrian emergencies and exigencies, but its *modus operandi* is utterly imperfect, and is, indeed, but a confused imitation of the North German Regulations, without taking into consideration the especial working conditions of that country, or the remainder of the rules and regulations connected with and completing the "treasury aid system."

The new law decrees that these "aid treasuries" shall be founded for giving temporary relief to sick or disabled operatives. They may be created by the workmen amongst themselves, or in conjunction with their masters, or by the employers alone, for the benefit of their operatives, and are to remain under the management and control of the contributors thereto.

In provinces or districts where no such society has been formed, or where these do not suffice for the demand made upon them, the local authorities may decree the creation of a "trade aid treasury," having previously received and examined all demands, reports, opinions, or in conformity with a requisition from the Chamber of Commerce of the district.

Employers will be compelled to subscribe to it, and a suitable co-operative body is to be established for its administration.

All operatives, also apprentices who are in receipt of wages, are obliged to subscribe to a "sick fund," and remain members of it, so long as they are in receipt of salary, without the option of withdrawing from it.

The statutes of this "sick fund" are to be handed over to the authorities, and must contain rules with respect to the following details:—

1. The scope of its action.

2. The amount of subscriptions.

3. The mode of their payment.

4. The conditions under which the claims to assistance are to be allowed.

5. The nature and measure of the assistance (or "aid.")

6. The effects produced by allowing arrears of payment.

7. The form in which the accounts of the aid fund are to be kept, and its annual reports.

These funds are on no account to be applied to any other purpose than that prescribed by the law, nor are they to be placed as loans in the hands of private individuals, but shall be invested in securities as trust funds. Anyone who transgresses this Ordinance will incur the penalties of the criminal law, in addition to those prescribed by the trade laws.

These vested contributions can neither be mortgaged nor sold, except for the benefit of the mutual aid association.

If any member of this association belonging to the operative class should be in arrear of payment to the amount of three consecutive instalments, his employer is obliged, on a demand from the administration of the aid fund, to reimburse this sum, stopping it out of the man's wages.

Employers accepting or employing workmen who do not belong to any trade-assistance institution, must place these upon the same footing as apprentices, and to treat them as prescribed for apprentices by the general laws.

These form the complete Code of Regulations, and it would appear that the parties employed to frame them have had three distinct "aid funds" in view;

1st. Voluntary aid treasuries;

2nd. Compulsory aid treasuries created by the authorities; and,

3rd. When neither one or other of the above are available, a sick fund to be used by employers for sick workmen on the same scale as that established by decree for servants.

Under the term of aid treasuries the law seems to comprehend a system of mutual funds to be solely devoted to the sick, the aged, and improvident, and also

for confirmed invalids. Now it may be considered injudicious or inexpedient to have confounded these two branches of charity or mutual succour under one heading, as a different organization and different conditions separate the two. Therefore if compulsory organization were necessary, it seems that it would have been more natural to have made the sick fund an obligatory one, and to have left a foundation for the benefit of the aged and invalided, to the discretion of a voluntary treasury aid.

If, therefore, the creation of these sick funds are a necessity, it may be supposed that the management of them must be conducted on an analogous system. But the nature of establishment that is required in the shape of an aid fund should be based on the requirements of the workmen, which are so diverse that a single aid fund, formed as this one is, cannot suffice to meet the different exigencies of different and manifold circumstances; and with respect to the young operatives it would appear more natural that they should devote a certain portion of their wages to the development of his mental and technical improvement, than to a compulsory aid treasury for the aged and invalided.

These measures, which oblige the workmen to belong to such societies, obliging their employers to deduct from their wages the subscription when it has fallen in arrear, even when contrary to the will of the operative, are based upon a principle of compulsion rather at variance with the increasing liberty of the age in which we live.

But should an operative when commencing his career refuse absolutely to belong to any of these societies, what provision does the statute make for the eventuality of his falling ill? None whatever! His employer must take care of and assist him, or he must pay a contribution to the sick fund, in order that his workman may be cared for.

Therefore, this part of the statute has not been maturely considered; is contradictory and insufficient; and it is hoped that when presented and discussed by the Chambers these defects may be corrected.

Division 8.—*Of punishments.*

The Penalties fixed by the new trade laws for the non-observance of its decrees are to be paid partly in fines and partly by the temporary or total withdrawal of all its rights and privileges.

The fines attain a maximum of 400 florins, and should the party condemned not be able to pay the same this punishment may be replaced by that of imprisonment, and a calculation of one day for every 5 florins until the entire sum be paid.

As the Common Law supersedes the so called Trade Laws, this penalty can only be enforced in cases which do not come under the jurisdiction of the former.

Deprivation of "trade rights" is naturally enacted by the new decree, but it can always be carried out by the trade authorities, either for a stated period or for ever, under the following circumstances:—

(1.) When a "trader" has suffered imprisonment for subversion or menace, and that any danger may accrue from the carrying on of his trade.

(2.) Where repeated punishment for having broken the rules and regulations has proved to be unavailing.

(3.) Where a manufacturer shows an utter want of ability, after repeated warnings communicated in writing. [This is applicable to particular trades which are under the supervision of the police.]

In trades where the proprietor possesses real property, he forfeits all title to carrying out the trade himself, but reserves for himself the disposal of his "trade rights."

Where the "business" is carried on by a manager or a substitute, the fines are to be levied on them, and in default of their payment, on the proprietor of the "trade." If the deprivation of trade rights be decreed, then the manager or substitute is to be removed.

This law is, however, only executed when it can be proved that the proprietor has been a party to the transgression of it, and that he could have prevented the same had he chosen to do so.

In cases where the criminal or common law does not supersede the trade law, these punishments fall into abeyance or disuse, for instance, when the offender has not been examined with respect to the offence within six

months of committing it; but in general questions of any importance the penal law is to be applied.

Division 9.—*Authorities, Courts, and Procedure.*

The Trade Regulations are framed by the Court of First Instance. It also issues the permissions or patents and the notices about management. To it belong the investigation and application of punishment of offences committed in contravention of this Law, in so often as they do not come within the direction of the penal laws, and it is everywhere seconded by the police authorities.

The Court of Second Instance is composed of the administrative political authorities of the country (State or Provincial Government). It has to decide, however, in Court of First Instance, on questions of transport, such as railways which extend over several provinces of the same Crown (Austria being divided into, or rather composed of, different kingdoms), and it can suspend any "trade undertaking."

The Court of Third Instance, in all matters of trade (with the exception of punishments), is the Ministry of Commerce, which decides as arbiter in all questions of admitting the above-named Transport Companies, where their enterprise extends beyond the limits of one province. The penalties are adjudged by the Minister of the Interior, and in all cases the concurrence of the entire Cabinet is necessary.

Trade commissions are to be formed for the purpose of examining the best method for developing the economical conditions of all trade undertakings. These commissions will be composed of traders, merchants, and members of the Chambers of Commerce, under the presidency of a Government official.

The procedure is as follows:—

"Permits" are to be issued in the shape of an extract from the notice given, and accompanied by a confirmation of the General Trade Register.

To "permits" for special trades must be added an attestation that the trader possesses the necessary requirements.

Trade Registers must be kept at the Courts of First Instance, in which every change in the condition of trades is to be entered, and notice thereof given to the

Chambers of Commerce and to the "Tax Office," to the former because the traders are also electors for the candidates of those Chambers, who in their turn possess the privilege of returning some thirty members to Parliament; to the Tax Office because the traders are made liable to a tax on their earnings, the scale of which is fixed according to the category to which they belong.

The proceedings in the Court of First Instance are oral and verbal, a protocol or statement being previously made in writing. The grounds upon which decisions are taken are to be explained to the respective parties in cases where a "permit" has been cancelled, trade rights taken away, some request not complied with, or a trade shut up. These decisions are to be registered.

Against these decisions an appeal can be made to the superior Courts. In penal cases, they must be made within fourteen, and in all others, within thirty days; in the first case it has the effect of delaying the punishment.

No appeal can be made against a decree which has been confirmed by the Courts of Second Instance, but the Superior Court has a right in certain cases to mitigate the amount of punishment to be inflicted. In other cases, an appeal can be made by petition to the Ministry.

The Second and Third Courts give their decisions by voting.

The collecting of the fines is effected by means of seizure and executions made by the administrative powers, and the amount is remitted to the "aid treasuries." They can, furthermore, seize machinery and tools, and close trade establishments, in order to enforce the execution of any penal decision.

The above contains the tenor of the new Trade Laws, which have been thus elaborately prepared by the Austrian Government, to meet the long and urgently demanded reform of the Trade Regulations made in 1859.

This Project of Law is about to be submitted to the approval of the Chambers of Commerce, and will afterwards be brought before Parliament for discussion and approval. It is probable that some of the conditions

contained in it will be modified or altered, especially those that affect the associations and the "aid treasuries," the former as regards liberty of association, and the latter with respect to the obligatory supervision for the benefit of the operatives.

All things considered, the proposed plans are reasonable and progressive, and if properly carried out, will immensely improve the position of the working classes in this country.

(Signed) R. PERCY FFRENCH.

Vienna, July 14, 1875.

Bavaria.

Answers to some of the Questions contained in the Note of Mr. Morier, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Royal Household, on the production and use of Timber in Bavaria.*

1. In Bavaria, timber is principally put to the following uses :—

Oak (*Quercus robur et pedunculata*) is used for building purposes, staves, and is largely exported for ship-building.

Red Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). Its branches are used by carriage builders, and the larger ones in planks by joiners, also for wooden shoes.

Maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus et platanoides*), by carriage builders, joiners, and especially by instrument makers.

Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) is used by carriage builders, joiners; as is also the elm (*Ulmus campestris et effusa*).

Birch (*Betula alba*). Its weak branches for switches and hoops, its stronger ones for carriage building.

Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) is used in many places in thin boards for cigar boxes.

The timber of the "leaf trees," which grow singly, but not of the larger sorts in the inclosed forests, is used in smaller quantities for certain technical purposes.

Chesnut (*Castanea vesca*) is used for small pliant staves.

Poplar (*Populus*) for paper-making.

Willow (*Salix*) for basket-making.

Pine trees yield timber in large quantities.

Fir (*Abies excelsa*) yields long timber for building purposes of all sorts, also for ship-building and planks: as also the silver fir (*Abies pectinata*) and the Scotch fir (*Pinus silvestris*); the finest of the latter for masts.

Larch (*Pinus larix*) is in great request, but hitherto it has only grown widly and to a limited extent.

* The questions referred to will be found on page 1 of the "Reports respecting the Production and Consumption of Timber in Foreign Countries" (Commercial No. 2, 1875).

Fir (*Pinus cembra*) grows but little in the Alps. It yields the best material for artistic carvings, for which also maple, pine, and other different sorts of timber are used.

2. The different sorts of timber above mentioned are found in the woods of the State, in those of the Communes, of foundations, and of private persons.

3. According to the last Returns, the whole surface of the forests in Bavaria amounts to 2,603,264 hectares.

These may, in round numbers, be divided into—36 per cent. held by the State; 13 per cent. held by the Communes; 2 per cent. held by the foundations; 49 per cent. held by private persons.

4. The State endeavours gradually to consolidate its woods, and also to enlarge them, but certain small portions of them which require a disproportionate outlay for management and inspection, and which are rather suited for agriculture, are sold; whilst, on the other hand, inclosed spaces near the woods of the State and the adjacent grounds are bought.

In consequence, the area of the woods of the State increased in the years 1872-73 by 1,509 tagswerk.

Against this must be set that in the woods not belonging to the State large portions are grubbed up and turned into agricultural land, so that in the last six years the area of such woods has been decreased by 15 to 539 "tagswerk."

5. The reason why certain private owners turn their woods into agricultural land more than formerly, must be sought for in this—that, owing to the rising of the price of wood, the capital at hand can be more advantageously used, and that the site of the woods when turned into fields or meadows yields a larger yearly rent than it did as forest; to which must also be added that in many parts the increase of the population necessitates more agricultural land.

6. According to the provisions of the Forest Law of March 28, 1852, the woods specially defined as "protected" must be preserved, and may not be cut down; moreover, all bare spots within them, though capable of cultivation, must be replanted. *Vide* Articles 35 to 47 of the Forest Laws and the Supplement to them.

7. The annual yield of the State, Commune, and foundation woods is calculated on the basis of maintain-

ing them in their integrity, and is determined by strict rules as to culture, whilst private persons in the free occupation of their woods are only controlled by the Forest Laws adverted to it the foregoing paragraph.

At present the annual produce of all the forests may be reckoned at 9,168,600 "steres." In those of the State 36 per cent of the yearly produce is reckoned as timber and building wood, in those of private persons, however, this per-centage is somewhat smaller. It is true that there are no means of making a correct calculation, still it may be computed with tolerable exactitude that in all the forests together, 30 per cent. of the whole produce is timber, and therefore the yield of the private forests may be reckoned at 2,750,600 "steres."

8. The above quantity of wood is actually thrown and used. Fluctuations in the amount of the yearly felling occur in the woods of the State, Communes, and foundations in so far only as an unvoidable excess caused by exceptional circumstances, such as damage done by storms, snow, or insects is balanced in the following years by a diminished amount of felling, or, on the other hand, when a deficit in one year's estimates is made up for by subsequent extra cuttings.

But in the woods of private owners the yearly produce will probably become less and less, because, on account of the high price of wood, they fell beyond what the next year's growth would justify, and the whole extent of forests is thus diminishing.

11. The increase or decrease of the export of timber depends principally on the state of the market and on the competition of other countries, but, inasmuch as in many of the forests belonging to private owners in Bavaria the heavier and more valuable building timber is almost entirely used up, so it is to be assumed that the export of this kind of wood, both as regards value and quantity, gradually decreases.

13. For the study of the physical influences of forests on the air and soil, their influence on the climate, and hygienic importance, several observatories have been erected. The results of their observations have been collected in a work compiled by the Royal Professor Ebermayr, and published in 1873 by Krebs of Aschaffenburg, which should be used as a book of reference on this subject.

Fuller information on several of the points above touched upon can be obtained in the works—

"Die Forstverwaltung Bayerns vom Jahr 1861;"

"Forststatistischen Mittheilungen aus Bayern vom Jahr 1869;"

"Forstgesetze für das Königreich Bayern."

Munich, May 27, 1875.

Brazil.

Précis by Mr. Drummond of the proposed Budget and General Financial Report presented to the General Legislative Assembly, by his Excellency Visconde do Rio Bonito, Imperial Minister of Finance.

[Exchange calculated at 26*d.* to the milreis.]

Expenditure and Receipts.

Expenditure and Receipts.

The general expenditure proposed for 1876-77, is fixed at 11,416,048*l.* The general receipts at 11,483,333*l.*, thus giving a surplus of 67,285*l.* The receipts destined for application of the Emancipation Fund, are estimated at 122,576*l.*, the same as in last year's Budget.

Revenue.

Revenue.

The Government is authorized to emit 818,000*l.*, in anticipation of revenue.

	Milreis.	£
The revenue of 1873–4 was estimated at	103,000,000	= 11,158,333
But it only amounted to ..	101,200,000	10,963,233
Or a decrease of.. ..	1,800,000	195,000

However, in comparing the first half-year, 1874-75, with that of 1873-74, the former gives an increase of 254,750*l.*

Supplementary Credits.

Supplementary Credits.

Under this heading the estimated expenditure is raised to 4,610,516*l.*, which shows but little difference with the amount which will probably appear in the balance sheet of the financial year, excluding expenditure paid, and not marked off in former Budgets, viz., 4,615,632*l.*, though both seem to exceed the amount voted by law, viz., 4,558,539*l.*

Loan of 5,000,000l.

Loan of 5,000,000*l.*

Respecting the loan of 5,000,000*l.* lately made in England, his Excellency states, that it was on account of surveys, constructions, and prolongation of railroads, as the credit allowed by the Legislature of 2,166,666*l.*, for the Pedro II Railway, had been all expended since the second half-year of 1873-74.

This loan was emitted at 96½, and bonds were emitted at 5,301,200*l.* which represent its nominal value, the interest is 5 per cent, payable in January and June.

Agriculture.

Agriculture.

His Excellency remarks, on this important subject, that the Government will do all they can to aid its progress; and that later it will be imperative to force on the State some sacrifice, in order to attract foreign capital to help agricultural labour.

Circulating medium.

Circulating Medium.

	£
1874	19,835,265
1875	19,702,442

The redemption of bank issue is less than in the two preceding years, owing to the Law of September 1873, reducing it to 2½ per cent.

Foreign debt.

Foreign Debt.

This debt was reduced, in 1874, by 423,000*l.*, thus bringing it down from 15,053,200*l.* to 14,630,000*l.*; but on account of the 5,000,000*l.* loan (real value), raised in January last, or nominal value, 5,301,209*l.*, it now amounts to 19,931,000*l.*, the interest and amortization will be in 1876-77, 1,140,233*l.*

Total debts of the Empire.

Total Debts of the Empire.

	£
1874	66,818,814
1875	72,013,434
Or an increase of	5,197,579

Customs.

Customs.

The total receipts of 1873-74 were 8,202,054*l.*, a falling off on 1872-73, of 649,326*l.*, though on account

of an increase from coast clearances of 1,467*l.*, the true decrease only amounts to 647,859*l.*

In 1874-75, the first half-year's receipts have reached 4,060,098*l.*, which, compared with 1873-74, gives an increase for exportation, of 190,825*l.*

Anchorage Dues.

Anchorage dues.

The revenue has diminished, owing to the reduction of those dues in 1873, which were exorbitantly high; the Minister of Finance says, that he proposes conferring further favours on these, which will be of great benefit to the shipping interest.

IMPORTS.

Imports.

	£
1872–3	17,167,240
1873–4	11,546,973
Or a decrease in 1873–4 of ..	620,273

EXPORTS.

Exports.

	£
1872–3	23,283,750
1873–4	20,550,638
Or a decrease in 1873–4 of ..	2,733,112

Vessels, Crews, Tonnage. Arrivals and Departures.

Vessels, crews, tonnage, arrivals, and departures.

Arrivals of vessels from foreign countries to the Empire, 1873-74 :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
10,494	6,437,515	236,896

Sailings :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
9,831	6,539,395	229,063

This statement, compared with 1872-73, shows a great increase, thus—

Arrivals from foreign countries to the Empire, 1872-73 :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
9,818	5,255,778	196,980

Sailings :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
8,971	5,690,595	189,349

Coasting vessels, &c.

Coasting Vessels, &c.

Coasting-vessels, arrivals, 1873-74 :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
19,574	5,257,447	331,136

Sailings :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
19,548	4,914,461	324,319

This, compared with 1872-73, shows a smaller number of vessels arrived, but a larger tonnage and number of crews; and in the sailing the number of vessels are nearly the same, though a larger tonnage and number of crews.

Arrivals of coasters, 1872-73 :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
19,985	4,350,385	258,010

Sailings :—

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Crews.
19,525	4,241,419	247,312

Public revenue.

Public Revenue.

Comparing the public revenue of 1873-74, with 1872-73, there has been a total decrease of 848,660*l.* on all headings, with the exception of a slight increase in clearance of vessels, 1,083*l.*

Rio de Janeiro, June 1, 1875.

Colombia (United States of).

General Report by Mr. Bunch on the United States of Colombia for the year 1873-74.

Extent of territory.

THE number of square miles which the Republic contains is calculated as follows:—

North of the Equator	330,756
South of the Equator	124,917
Total	455,673

No means exist of ascertaining what portion of the territory is under cultivation. But it cannot exceed one-tenth.

Climate.

Every variety of climate is to be found, from the tropical heat of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, to the perpetual snow of the Andes. Delightful temperatures abound at an elevation of from 3,000 to 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. The plain of Bogotá and the city itself are about 8,600 feet high.

Products.

The following articles and many others can be grown within the Republic; cacao, sugar-cane, indigo, tobacco, Indian corn, cotton, rice, the vine, coffee, wheat, barley, potatoes, apples and other European fruits. These latter, however, never reached perfection, owing to the want of change in the seasons and also to the deficiency of care in their cultivation. They are abundant in quantity, but tasteless and imperfect.

Population.

Population.

The last census was taken in 1871. The total number of inhabitants is stated to be 2,916,703, of whom 1,420,817 are men and 1,495,886 women.

In 1843 the population was	1,932,279
In 1851 „ „	2,136,976
In 1871 „ „	2,916,703

Increase.

The increase between 1851 and 1871 is set down at 37·20 per cent. The largest increase is observable in the States of Antioquia, Magdalena and Panamá.

Political organization.

Political Organization.

Colombia is a Federal Republic, divided in nine States, each Sovereign and independent, but delegating certain powers to the General Government established at Bogotá. Each State sends three Senators to Congress and one Representative for each 50,000 of the population. There are also "territories," which are described as "spots thinly populated or occupied by tribes of aborigines." These are ceded by the States in which they are comprised to the General Government which appoints the Governors and other officers. They are represented in Congress by Delegates who can debate, but, as a rule, not vote.

The constitution of the Republic is thoroughly democratic.

It is easy for a foreigner to become a citizen, but I never heard of an European or a citizen of the United States availing himself of the privilege. He prefers the protection of his own Government.

There is perfect religious toleration. All Colombians are Roman Catholics, but no form of religion is protected by law in preference to another.

The press is quite free.

The penalty of death for crime is abolished, and no one can be imprisoned for more than ten years.

Character of people.

As a rule, the people are happy and contented. The Government troubles them very little. Every one does pretty much as he likes. The natural disposition of the Colombian is mild and inoffensive, and he has great tolerance for the idiosyncracies of his neighbours.

The lower classes in the interior are all Indians, who remain, I should imagine, much as the Spanish Conquerors found them three centuries and a half ago. They are very ignorant and very superstitious, but they are submissive and, as yet, unspoiled by democracy, probably because they do not know what it means. They are not robbers or murderers, in which respect they are certainly superior to their brethren of Peru or Mexico. They drink a great deal, but the liquor called chicoa

and made of fermented Indian corn stupefies rather than enlivens them. Under its influence they will scarcely get out of the way of a horse or a cart, but will stand before it staring stupidly. On the coast, and wherever the negro has become mixed with the white race, the lower classes are much much more dangerous. They assert their fancied equality, which the Indian never thinks of doing. The drink there is purely alcoholic, "aguardiente," very fiery and exciting.

Immigration.

As regards the question of European immigration into Colombia, I can only repeat what I have stated in former Reports. On the coast it would be madness, on account of the climate, if for no other reason. In the interior this objection does not exist, but there is nothing to tempt an Englishman to leave his own country which is not to be found in many more accessible parts of the world. The expense alone of reaching a healthy residence would be an insuperable difficulty to immigrants of the labouring class. As these opinions of mine have procured for me some abuse from a portion of the "Colombian Press," it is a satisfaction to me to know that they have been adopted, to their fullest extent, by the Secretary of Finance of the Republic in his Report to Congress for 1874.

Public Officers.

Public officers.

The number of public officers paid out of the national funds as authorized by the Budget for the present year is stated to be 1,451 with salaries amounting to 885,532 dollars about 177,100*l.* In addition to these, each State has its own staff of officers, paid from its own revenue.

The following Table gives the number of such officers and the amount of their salaries.

	Number.	Amount.
		Dollars.
Antioquia	493	207,351
Bolivar	407	143,693
Boyacá	268	61,935
Cauca	474	135,191
Cundinamarca	313	92,883
Magdalena	146	66,498
Panamá	303	114,454
Santander	555	129,179
Tolima	179	65,574
Total	3,138	1,016,758

I need hardly say that these appointments are considered as strictly the property of the Political Party which may have the preponderance in any given State. For a Liberal to receive an office in a Conservative State, or *vice versâ*, there would be required a violation of all party traditions which no Congress, Legislature, or President would be bold enough to commit.

Salaries. The President of the Union receives 2,400*l.* a-year, with a furnished house, &c.

Each Secretary of State receives 480*l.* a-year, so does a Judge of the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer-General, the Director of Public Instruction, and all officers of the highest grade. No one is allowed to accumulate offices. Nothing can be more modest than the remuneration of the public servants, and I have every reason to believe that the Revenue is administered with purity. Each President, naturally enough, rewards his own political and occasionally his private friends, but as there is no Civil Service and no preliminary training or examination, one man is as likely as another to discharge the duties of an office with respectability. As in the United States, each Department has one or two stationary Under-Secretaries or Clerks whose tenure of office each administration respects. Were this not so, business would soon come to a standstill. In the office of Finance, for instance, there are two employés who have not been changed for twenty or thirty years.

The army. The army can scarcely be said to exist; there are but 1,000 or so of men. By a somewhat singular provision of the constitution any one can be made an officer of any

grade without his having the slightest military knowledge. He can resign whenever he likes, and constantly does so if he is ordered to any duty which he does not fancy. Although this system would scarcely commend itself to the adoption of a powerful monarchy, it is a step in the right direction here. Colombia has suffered so much from military dictatorship that it has resolved to eliminate the class of revolution makers.

The Diplomatic and Consular Service consists of sixty-four paid members receiving about 12,000*l.* a-year.

Public Instruction.

Public instruction.

Great attention has been paid of late to the subject of public education. Certain schools are supported entirely in each of the States by the General Government, such as Normal Schools and those emanating from them. The States themselves maintain the other primary schools.

At first the Roman Catholic Church strongly opposed the system of lay education, and even now, in some States, it has succeeded in preventing its development. But the general opinion of the Republic is decidedly in favour of the plan, and the schools are well attended.

The following Report gives the number of schools and of scholars in the various States :—

	Number.	Pupils.
Boy's schools	1,301	61,205
Girl's schools	544	22,421
Total	1,845	83,626

In 1847 there were only 1,133 schools attended by 29,122 pupils.

Administration of Justice.

Administration of justice.

The Director of the Statistical Department complains of the impossibility of obtaining from the Tribunals of the different States trustworthy information respecting the administration of civil and criminal justice. Some States, such as Antioquia, Cundinamarca and Boyacá, have roundly refused to assist in this matter on various futile pleas, and even in those which are most favour-

ably disposed the statistical returns are imperfectly kept and nearly worthless.

Impunity of crime.

Señor Galindo, however, has found enough to justify him in saying that there is "an extraordinary yearly increase in the offences affainst life and property, the reason being the impunity with which crimes can be committed."

Many extracts are given from the messages of the Governors of States, &c., to prove this fact, which, I regret to say, my own experience corroborates. It is almost impossible to get any one punished for crime if he has money or friends. The "poor Indian, whose untutored mind" is as much in want of the schoolmaster as when Pope wrote about him, is occasionally to be seen doing some light work in a chain gang, but he is the only victim of the offended majesty of the law. The words of Señor Galindo are stronger than any that I could use: "That crime increases in daring, and that its multiplication and impunity are destroying amongst us all respect for human life, are facts which do not admit of doubt."

Hospitals, &c.

Hospitals and Charitable Establishments.

The Spaniards left in many parts of their South American Colonies numerous establishments of this kind. They were all connected with the Church, and, in the majority of cases, possessed considerable revenues. Although a great number of these have disappeared, owing to repeated confiscations and the exigencies of frequent revolutions, some still exist. They are now supported by State aid increased by voluntary contributions. I observe in the Report of Señor Galindo that most of the States have hospitals, although they are generally on a small scale. In Bogotá there is a fair provision of benevolent institutions, and many private individuals give up their time and labour to them gratuitously. Within the last four years a number of French Sisters of Charity have been introduced who have done much good.

Permanent and floating capital.

Permanent and Floating Capital of the Country.

Señor Galindo has done his best to procure ample and trustworthy information on this subject, but as yet

he has not been successful. It may be said that only four States have helped him at all, and even from these the returns forwarded are too imperfect and partial to render them of practical value. It is hoped that as the Statistical Department becomes better known more interest will be felt in it. At present it is a mere experiment.

Industries of the Republic.

The chief industries of the Republic are the agricultural, the breeding of cattle, and the mining. They all remain much as they were left by the Spaniards.

As regards the first no chemical analysis of the soil is ever made, no manures are used, the rotation of the crops is unknown, and no modern machinery is to be found. But the extreme fertility of the ground seems inexhaustible, the crops are large and amply sufficient for the wants of the home consumer; to export them would be impossible, on account of the difficulties and expense of transportation.

The occupation of cattle-breeding has been followed more scientifically within the last very few years than was customary. Some foreign stock has been introduced, especially on the plain of Bogotá.

Mines.

Antioquia, which is the principal mining State, has only one mine, that of Zancudo, supplied with good modern machinery. The number of mines actually worked in the State is said to be 561, employing 16,000 labourers and producing yearly 2,300,000 dollars. The value of the gold exported was:—

	Dollars.
In 1873	1,809,554
Of silver in the same period	330,795

Some rude manufactures of cotton cloth are to be found in Cundinamarca, Boyacá, and Santander.

Coffee.

The cultivation of coffee of excellent quality has of late occupied much attention. Returns, more or less complete, have been received from the States of Santander and Cundinamarca, in which the production is set down at 52,000 cargas, a carga being 250 pounds.

Tobacco.

Tobacco is grown in considerable quantities in Jiron, Ambalema, and Palmira. It is not of the first quality, but is extensively used in Germany in the fabrication of spurious Havana cigars. In the State of Bolivar also the tobacco of Carmen is cultivated, which, I believe, is put to the same use.

There are, of course, many other products of the soil to be found in different parts of the Republic, such as cacao, cotton, indigo, &c., but these are only exported in small quantities, the bulk of them being consumed at home.

Traffic with each other of the States composing the Colombian Union.

River Magdalena.

The most important channel of communication is undoubtedly the River Magdalena. By it the States of the Atlantic coast, Bolivar, and Magdalena, the Isthmus of Panamá, and parts of the States of Santander and Antioquia are brought into commercial connection with the interior of the Republic. It is also by it that the intercourse with foreign nations is kept up.

The length of this river from the Atlantic to a town called Honda, where its navigation is interrupted by a rapid (which might be easily removed), is between 700 and 800 miles. Thirty years ago passengers and goods had to be carried on it in canoes of various sizes, the largest, called "champans," taking from fifty to ninety days up, and ten down.

Now there are three separate companies of steamers on the Magdalena, owning 13 vessels, which carried during the first six months of 1874, 98,009 cargas, and 3,282 passengers.

The portion of the river between the Atlantic coast and Honda is called the Lower Magdalena.

Above the rapid of Honda it is again navigable for small steamers, of which one, the "Moltke," was successfully forced up the stream in January last, and is now engaged on the Upper Magdalena.

The whole river is subject to alternate floods and falls, which seriously interfere with navigation. During the rainy season the steamers can scarcely stem the current, whilst during the long droughts communication with the coast is practically suspended. It is a most inconvenient and disagreeable means of travel. So long as it is, as now, the only one, Colombia can never emerge from her isolation. She will continue to be comparatively unknown to the outer world. The climate of the river is intensely hot; the scenery, with few exceptions, dull and uninteresting; supplies of food are

scanty and bad; alligators and mosquitoes, it is true, abound, but these, so far as the human race is concerned, are rather seekers than furnishers of food.

River Atrato.

The River Atrato is navigable from the Port of Coquito, on the Atlantic, to a spot 30 leagues above Quibdó, in all 98 leagues. Of these, 72 can be performed in the light-draught steamers and large canoes, or "champans," the remaining 36 in small canoes.

The importations consist of foreign liquors, powder, lead, cotton, cloth, earthenware, and the like; the amount, about 6,000 cargas annually.

The exports are gold, platina, india-rubber, vegetable ivory, cacao, tortoise-shell, and dye-woods, to the value of 65,000*l.*

Tribe of the Cunas.

The Indian tribe of the Cunas, still in a semi-savage state, receives a large proportion of these imports, and furnishes many of the exports. They are represented as intelligent and industrious, good pilots, and occupied in agriculture and fishing.

River San Juan.

The river of San Juan and the Upper and Lower Cauca, within the State of that name, are also made available for domestic trade. But this is on a small scale, and does not, except indirectly, interest foreign countries.

and routes.

Between the States themselves there is much communication by land. Some of them, such as Boyacá and parts of Santander, do not import directly from Europe or the United States, but supply their wants in the market of Bogotá. Everything is carried on the backs of mules, excepting on the plain of Bogotá, where there are now numerous carts and a few carriages.

Trade with Venezuela and Ecuador.

Between the north-eastern part of the State of Santander and the Republic of Venezuela there is some trade, which would, no doubt, increase if peace were established in that Republic. The State of Cauca also carries on an active trade with its neighbour, the Ecuador, where it is said that their superior intelligence procures for them profitable occupation.

Post Offices and Telegraphs.

Post and telegraphs.

The postal service is fairly performed, considering the difficulties under which it labours. The rates of

postage are high, being about 5*d.* for quarter of an ounce. The number of telegraphic lines is increasing yearly. There are now in operation about 1,041 miles of wire.

Submarine cable.

There is now a good prospect of a submarine cable being laid along the west coast of South America, touching at Buenaventura and Panamá, both Colombian ports. Colon, on the Atlantic, is already in communication with Jamaica.

Foreign commerce.

Foreign Commerce.

Incorrect Returns.

The Chief of the Statistical Office begins his Report on this head by stating that the information furnished by the Custom-houses is extremely imperfect, and "deserves very little confidence as regards the value both of the imports and exports." This is, of course, a serious objection to the correctness of a commercial report, but there is no source other than the books of Custom-houses from which information can be obtained.

The reason given for this want of correctness is stated to be the manner in which all duties are levied, that is, by weight, and not *ad valorem*.

Panamá railroad.

A few statistics are subjoined of the operations of the Panamá Railroad during the last six months of 1874 :—

	Packages.	Passengers.
Colon to Panamá	605,183	2,731
Panamá to Colon	324,065	6,886

Specie destined to the following countries :—

	Dollars.
United States	106,813
England	1,778,737
France	364,608
Germany	121,882
Total	2,372,040

Savanilla railroad.

There is a short railroad, owned principally by some houses in Bremen, between Savanilla, on the Atlantic coast, and Barranquilla, where the navigation of the Magdalena begins. It is stated that, during 1874, 78,635 "cargas" were carried over it imported, whilst the exports were as follows :—

Cotton	6,842 bales.
Indigo	632 boxes.
Sugar	726 loaves.
Hides	63,842 loose.
Indiarubber	27 packages.
Coffee	36,409 bags.
Dyewoods	56,385 packages.
Quinine	43,661 sacks.
Cotton seed	26,809 „
Tobacco	47,600 packages.

Exports.

Exports.

The total exports through all the Custom-houses of the Union from the 1st of September, 1873, to the 31st of August, 1874, are said to have been as follows :—

Packages	886,034
Value	10,189,852 dollars.

Of this amount the items are—

Articles exported.

	Dollars.
Precious metals, coined and uncoined	3,220,600
Cotton	249,048
Indigo	186,923
Indiarubber	241,106
Hides	475,675
Coffee	975,353
Dyewoods, &c.	210,740
Quina bark	1,794,259
Straw hats	142,148
Tobacco	2,340,046
„ manufactured	20,837
Cotton seed	38,325
Total	9,895,060

From this Table it will appear that next to the precious metals, the chief articles of export are :—

1. Tobacco.
2. Quina bark.
3. Coffee.
4. Hides.
5. Cotton.
6. Dyewoods.
7. Indigo.

The countries to which these articles were exported are as follows :—

Countries to which exported.

	Packages.	Value.
		Dollars.
Germany	132,859	2,635,769
West Indies	26,404	210,936
Costa Rica	9	3,100
Chile	24	720
Ecuador.	21,524	55,094
United States of America	218.490	1,556,506
United States of Colombia	59,122	87,022
France	60,873	1,674,874
Holland	1,856	42,055
England.	182,143	3,843,993
Italy	240	2,750
Peru	45,386	76,429
Venezuela	137,104	600
Total	886,034	10,189.848

The value of the exports to Venezuela through Circuta and Maracaibo is not given, which omission invalidates the whole Return.

The item "United States of Colombia" means exports by sea from one port to another to Colombia.

Distribution of exports.

This Table shows that of the 10 millions of exports more than 8½ millions go to—

1. England.
2. Germany.
3. France.
4. United States.

England takes the largest proportion of the precious metals; Germany nearly all the tobacco; England, France, and the United States, the quinine; the United States and Germany, the coffee. This is a very rough division but tolerably correct.

Of the Custom-houses, Savanilla exports upwards of 8,000,000 out of 10,000,000 dollars.

Imports

Imports.

The imports through all the Custom-houses of the Union are stated to be 1,925,191 packages of different sizes and weight, valued by invoice at 11,218,844 dollars.

Articles.

Of this number of packages 1,360,830 are salt.

Manufactured goods of all classes, cotton, silk and woollen, including ready made clothing, 57,598 packages; wines and liquors, 78,731 packages, oil and kerosene

37,047 packages, building materials 90,963 packages, perfumery 37,881 dollars.

Of the 11,000,000 dollars of imports 7,136,822 are made through Savanilla, the remaining seven Custom-houses receiving the rest.

Sources of imports.

The countries from which the importations are made are the following :—

Country.	Packages.	Value.
		Dollars.
Germany	92,991	676,442
Antilles	67,273	233,493
Colombian Free Ports	22,261	419,051
Ecuador	3,545	178,354
Spain	2,924	16,983
France	78,888	1,906,870
England	93,510	4,976,381
North America	119,434	806,644
Peru	488,190	46,130
Venezuela	30,289	861,257
Other countries	925,886	1,097,235
Total	1,925,191	11,218,840

Distribution.

This Table shows that England with her West Indian Colonies, furnishes nearly half of all the imports into Colombia; namely, about 5,500,000 dollars. France comes next with about 2,000,000 dollars; then Venezuela, 860,000 dollars; the United States, 806,000 dollars; and Germany, 676,000 dollars. The large sum of upwards of 1,000,000 dollars is set down to "other countries," which is a rough-and-ready way of keeping the accounts.

Under-estimate.

Señor Galindo considers that both the imports and exports are under estimated by the Custom-houses. He believes that were the Returns properly made they would show: exports, 13,000,000 dollars; imports 15,000,000 dollars; being 28,000,000 dollars, instead of 21,000,000 dollars.

Lines of steamers.

Almost the whole of this trade is done in large steamers belonging to foreign Companies, English, German, French, and North American. Very few sailing vessels are employed, except small schooners along the Pacific coast and from Curaçoa, Jamaica, &c., on the Atlantic side of the Isthmus of Panamá. There is frequent communication with Europe and the United

States by the steamers, principally from Savanilla and Colon.

Great Britian enjoys a great preponderance in all Colombian commerce.

Report on Finance.

The above Report should be taken in connection with that on the finance of the Republic transmitted by me to the Foreign Office in February, 1875.

The revenue, debts (foreign and domestic), public property, &c., are described in that paper.

General Remarks.

On the whole Colombia may be considered as fairly prosperous. Her resources are being gradually developed under the influence of peace at home and abroad, and the industry of her citizens. Her engagements are not heavier that she can reasonably be expected to fulfil. Her great want is roads, and to this vital point the attention of each successive administration is directed.

Condition of foreigners.

The foreigners residing in the Republic are generally thriving and contented. No one makes large fortunes, as in Peru, Chile, Buenos Ayres, or Cuba, but there is a general amount of well being. The Government of the Union is always amenable to reason in any questions which may arise with the foreign Representatives, and there is an honest desire to live on good terms with other countries.

(Signed) ROBERT BUNCH.

Bogotá, April 8, 1875.

Denmark.

Report by Mr. Pakenham on the Trade and Commerce, and Finance, of Denmark for the Year 1873-74.

THE Statistical Tables for the financial year from April 1, 1873, to March 31, 1874, are now in circulation, and from these I give the following extracts, which will perhaps have some interest:—

IMPORT AND EXPORT.

Calculated in register tons, the import and export with the principal countries, has been as follows:—

	Tons.
Great Britain	580,900
Germany	370,600
Sweden and Norway	360,000
Russia	52,400
Danish Colonies	21,600
Holland	18,400
Belgium	13,000
France	9,500
United States of North America	9,300
East Indies, China, &c.	8,400
South America (the Brazils excluded)	6,700
Brazils	3,100

The value of the export was completed at about 85,526,000 rix-dollars, thus principally distributed:—

		Rds.
Germany	about	34,312,000
Great Britain	„	28,040,000
Sweden	„	11,000,000
Norway	„	6,600,000
Danish Colonies	„	1,700,000
Belgium	„	1,300,000

The value of the import is computed at about 115,365,000 rix-dollars; and under this head are conspicuous:—

		Rds.
Germany	about	36,900,000
Great Britain	„	30,600,000
Sweden	„	11,400,000
Norway	„	5,100,000
Brazils	„	5,300,000
Russia	„	4,700,000
Danish Colonies	„	2,900,000
Holland	„	3,500,000
France	„	3,300,000
Belgium	„	1,400,000
United States, North America	„	1,710,000
West Indies (Danish Colonies not included)	„	1,500,000

Great Britain consequently imports and exports by far the greatest quantity of goods, but is exceeded by Germany as regards the value; it is, nevertheless, to be remarked that a considerable quantity of goods, especially cattle, pigs, &c., are exported from Denmark to Great Britain viâ Hamburgh and ports in Sleswig, and that Denmark receives a considerable quantity of English goods viâ Hamburgh; the values, which are calculated as going to and coming from Germany, would make a considerable difference in the amount of commerce with Great Britain.

The following articles are most noticeable as forming the—

Value of Export.

		Rds.
Animals	about	23,800,000
Meat, pork, hams, &c.	„	16,487,000
Grain and flour	„	21,600,000
Coffee	„	5,400,000
Sugar	„	1,100,000
Worsted, cotton, and silk goods	„	1,500,000
Hides and leather	„	2,500,000
Rice	„	900,000

And under the head of import are to be quoted the following values :—

		Rds.
Coffee	about	10,500,000
Metals, iron goods	„	11,900,000
Coal	„	7,200,000
Worsted and cotton goods	„	18,500,000
Timber, deals, &c.	„	6,900,000
Tobacco	„	1,900,000
Wines, spirits	„	1,500,000
Rice	„	1,900,000
Grain	„	4,500,000

		Rds.
Hides	about	3,300,000
Meat, sausages, &c.	„	3,600,000
Animals	„	3,800,000
Fish, fresh, salted, and cured ..	„	2,200,000

The number of vessels entering Danish ports, coasting not included, was—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Sailing-vessels	15,379	686,382
Steamers	5,899	246,938
Total	21,278	933,320

And the countries from which the cargoes have principally come, are—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain	3,023	438,818
Sweden	8,131	176,247
Norway	2,176	68,684
Germany	6,970	130,951
Russia	359	48,309
Holland	127	11,976
France	62	7,166
Spain and Portugal	89	8,862
Danish Colonies	101	9,184
Transatlantic ports	94	27,393

The number of vessels leaving Denmark for foreign countries was—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Sailing-vessels	15,554	204,907
Steamers	6,138	211,703
Total	21,692	416,610

And under this head are found—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain	1,441	142,070
Germany	6,577	120,379
Sweden	8,549	71,913
Norway	2,662	42,829
Belgium	125	9,646
Transatlantic ports	31	2,808
Holland	129	6,418
Danish Colonies	139	12,397

The Danish merchant navy consists of—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Sailing-vessels, above 4 tons ..	2,723	185,219
Steam-ships..	123	27,381
Total	2,846	212,600

Belonging to—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Copenhagen..	398	63,118
Sealand and adjacent islands ..	733	47,312
Funen and adjacent islands ..	962	54,722
Jutland	753	47,448

The population of Denmark, the Colonies not included, which in the year 1801 amounted to 934,266 souls, is now (March 31, 1874) estimated at 1,884,600 souls.

Copenhagen, which, in 1801, was inhabited by 100,975 souls, has now an estimated population of 216,000 souls.

IMPORT.

		1874. 1st July to 31st December.	1873. 1st July to 31st December.	
			More than 1874.	Less than 1874.
Grain—				
Buckwheat	barrels	2,767	..	255
Barley	,,	8,871	16,660	..
Beans	,,	367	..	253
Peas	,,	3,853	789	..
Oats	,,	25,116	..	7,783
Wheat	,,	35,411	30,085	..
Maize	,,	22,569	..	2,548
Malt	,,	1,524	..	974
Rye	,,	253,280	..	102,312
Flour, &c.—				
Buckwheat	lbs.	591,884	..	39,262
Barley	,,	27,664	6,806	..
Oats	,,	83,867	18,633	..
Wheat	,,	311,525	10,337	..
Rye	,,	45,028	577,073	..
Malt	,,	1,930	..	5
Maize	,,	2,127	2,660	..
Other produce of grain ..	,,	387,115	..	164,119
Potatoes	barrels	34,571	13,960	..
Linseed	,,	41,865	82,270	..
Rapeseed	,,	17,464	15,721	..
Cloverseed..	lbs.	703,104	..	..

		1874. 1st July to 31st December.	1873. 1st July to 31st December.	
			More than 1874.	Less than 1874.
Grass seed	lbs.	222,059	..	..
Hops	,,	684,239	..	319,580
Oil	,,	9,722,820	2,580,838	..
Manure—				
Natural	,,	19,567,749	..	7,544,821
Artificial	,,	12,751,962	1,474,436	..
Cattle bones and dust	,,	607,818	..	496,922
Palm and cocoanut kernels	,,	2,714,310	..	1,793,878
Oilcake	,,	17,400,526	..	5,861,210
Beer	gallons	16,877	..	499
Wine	,,	309,927	..	3,237
Spirits	,,	274,032	..	83,657
Fish—				
Fresh	lbs.	86,222	..	12,996
Dried, smoked, salted	,,	15,515,281	..	3,072,341
Horses	heads	1,583	..	118
Cattle	,,	9,710	..	2,972
Sheep	,,	19,158	..	12,260
Pigs	,,	5,545	..	1,959
Pork and hams	lbs.	301,477	342,239	..
Meat, tongues, sausages, &c.	,,	1,114,366	..	262,938
Cheese	,,	772,443	..	67,033
Butter	,,	2,072,672	..	252,000
Wool	,,	1,080,399	..	298,549
Hides—				
Raw	,,	2,934,731	628,501	..
Manufactured	,,	254,682	..	4,963
Dyeing stuffs	,,	2,760,653	..	645,601
Gum, resin, &c.	,,	1,598,141	..	706,898
Ditto	barrels	13,747	..	4,142
Drugs and spices	lbs.	1,072,405	..	145,855
Coffee	,,	6,229,905	5,496,788	..
Chicory roots, &c.	,,	1,500,935	..	570,905
Rice and rice flour	,,	10,223,904	3,736,065	..
Sugar, molasses, syrup	,,	22,262,733	10,014,750	..
Sago, arrowroot, &c.	,,	921,189	..	400,725
Tea	,,	390,701	195,134	..
Tobacco—				
Raw	,,	3,447,022	..	221,474
Manufactured, and cigars	,,	107,521	1,592	..
Fruit	,,	4,564,460	783,848	..
Paper	,,	1,617,689	..	399,301
Fancy goods	,,	163,526	..	28,064
Glassware	,,	2,486,712	..	244,082
Cotton and linen goods	,,	6,488,417	..	574,516
Worsted goods	,,	2,388,084	..	329,178
Silk	,,	125,261	..	26,136
Bricks, tiles, draining tubes, &c.	pieces	16,922,995	..	4,335,482
Earthenware	lbs.	607,713	..	152,494
China	,,	87,714	..	23,115
Metals—				
Raw	,,	17,100,730	..	4,838,715
Iron goods	,,	56,886,807	597,898	..
Other manufactured metals	,,	1,713,571	284,529	..
Timber and deals—				
Russian	cub. ft.	1,118,520	..	264,330
From other countries	,,	7,747,564	..	961,236
Manufactured	,,	100,548	..	34,785
Ditto	lbs.	7,683,662	..	622,274
Oak	cub. ft.	238,586	..	83,921

		1874. 1st July to 31st December.	1873. 1st July to 31st December. More than 1874.	1873. 1st July to 31st December. Less than 1874.
Ebony, &c.	cub. ft.	205,822	..	26,001
Coal	keel	14,626	..	1,079
Salt—				
Rock salt	lbs.	9,687,117	1,408,153	..
Refined	,,	16,213,303	..	5,411,787
Rags	,,	595,215	..	645

EXPORT.

Grain—				
Buckwheat	barrels	200	676	..
Barley	,,	553,812	..	88,840
Peas	,,	8,318	12,451	..
Oats	,,	127,419	86,311	..
Wheat	,,	98,352	151,916	..
Malt	,,	1,939	2,260	..
Rye	,,	126,312	76,387	..
Flour—				
Buckwheat	lbs.	73,775	..	16,363
Barley	,,	2,382,185	94,144	..
Oats	,,	18,931	..	15,840
Wheat	,,	44,199,667	..	19,954,524
Rye	,,	12,502,841	..	4,481,405
Malt	,,	4,020	345	..
Other produce of grain	,,	880,634	33,709	..
Potatoes	barrels	1,267	170	..
Linseed	,,	1,435	1,725	..
Rapeseed	,,	7,501	..	508
Cloverseed	lbs.	119,436	..	..
Grass seed	,,	142,059	..	..
Hops	,,	3,420	1,365	..
Oil	,,	2,735,415	..	892,370
Manure—				
Natural	,,	162,090	734,062	..
Artificial	,,	2,103,311	..	329,080
Cattle bones	,,	1,707,596	165,382	..
Oilcake	,,	2,819,545	702,097	..
Beer	gallons	88,452	6,424	..
Wine	,,	29,726	6,264	..
Spirits	,,	106,260	523	..
Oysters	lbs.	864,589	..	48,447
Fish—				
Fresh	,,	2,900,135	..	790,963
Dried, smoked, salted	,,	7,417,082	..	3,383,872
Horses	heads	1,496	325	..
Cattle	,,	37,752	..	10,659
Sheep	,,	37,434	8,803	..
Pigs	,,	93,710	2,271	..
Pork and hams	lbs.	6,384,976	..	664,200
Meat, tongues, sausages	,,	1,878,974	..	321,411
Cheese	,,	20,862	..	13,495
Butter	,,	16,134,944	..	2,991,520
Wool	,,	2,740,507	..	598,294
Hides—				
Raw	,,	2,663,536	..	654,645
Manufactured	,,	253,250	..	211,940
Gloves	,,	12,394	..	4,909
Dyeing stuffs	,,	254,155	114,508	..
Gum, resin, &c.	,,	34,087	49,185	..
Ditto	barrels	4,927	..	435

		1874. 1st July to 31st December.	1873. 1st July to 31st December.	
			More than 1874.	Less than 1874.
Drugs and spices	lbs.	69,189	26,058	..
Coffee	,,	5,031,599	3,564,332	..
Rice and rice flour	,,	2,866,663	599,286	..
Sugar, molasses, syrup	,,	3,300,411	1,567,629	..
Sago, arrowroot	,,	27,203	..	6,314
Tea	,,	46,981	64,103	..
Tobacco—				
Raw	,,	119,159	..	40,699
Manufactured and cigars	,,	75,178	..	4,626
Fruit	,,	617,190	..	53,126
Paper	,,	449,548	37,203	..
Fancy goods	,,	2,008	5,376	..
Glassware	,,	421,096	314,834	..
Cotton and linen goods	,,	723,727	..	131,067
Worsted goods	,,	224,176	..	11,764
Silk	,,	5,754	..	1,893
Bricks, tiles, draining tubes, &c.	pieces	978,573	364,584	..
Earthenware	lbs.	184,087	..	15,670
China	,,	50,123	20,830	..
Metals—				
Raw	,,	4,845,920	..	2,082,449
Ironware	,,	5,443,829	..	503,523
Other manufactured metals	,,	136,911	51,645	..
Timber, deals, &c.—				
Russian	cub. ft.	2,213	..	1,851
From other countries	,,	44,281	69,352	..
Manufactured	,,	706	..	706
Ditto	lbs.	590,159	115,793	..
Oak	cub. ft.	10,997	23,992	..
Ebony, &c.	lbs.	903	..	130
Coal	keel	1,998	..	72
Salt—				
Rock salt	lbs.	2,873	1,211	..
Refined	,,	678,524	..	24,000
Rags	,,	1,292,781	487,104	..

No duties leviable on rags, either Import or Export.

Budget for the Financial Year, April 1, 1873, to March 31, 1874.

(Approved by His Majesty in October 1874.)

	Rds.
The total revenue for this period amounts to	24,201,785
And the expenditure to	23,352,204
The surplus	849,581
Add the surplus from the preceding financial year	9,640,635
Surplus balance at the end of the financial year 1873–74	10,490,216

Among the chief items of Revenue are conspicuous—

	Rds.
Custom-house revenues and Excise on distilleries	10,382,582
Interest on the assets	2,436,619
Direct taxes	4,074,702
Stamp duty	1,153,285
Surplus on Crown estates	952,737
Duty on inheritance and transfer of property	666,187
Law fees	861,522
Surplus on Postal and Telegraph Departments	307,189
Contribution from the sinking fund	1,846,777
„ from the assets	733,675

and the expenditure is chiefly under the following heads:—

	Rds.
Interest on the National Debt—	
Inland	3,399,007
Foreign	1,221,365
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	180,628
„ of the Interior	616,486
„ of Justice	1,050,338
„ of Public Worship, &c.	364,670
War Department	4,444,562
Navy	2,026,122
Ministry of Finance	1,448,068
Payments on National Debt—	
Inland	58,671
Foreign	2,337,161
Railways	2,714,336
Appanages	713,272

	Rds.
Amount of assets, the 31st March, 1874	40,283,418
Reserve funds, the 31st March, 1874	27,732,386

Prospective Budget for the Financial Year, April 1, 1875, to March 31, 1876.

	Kronor.
The revenue is computed at	45,908,658
And the expenditure is computed at	45,117,152
Computed surplus	791,506

Revenue.—The chief items are set down as follows :—

	Kronor.
Surplus on Crown estates	1,407,918
Interest on assets	2,963,089
Direct taxes	6,039,070
Gross amount of Stamp duty..	1,852,000
Duty on inheritance and transfer of property ..	1,123,000
Law fees	1,842,000
Custom-house dues and Excise on distilleries ..	21,703,000
Surplus on Postal and Telegraph Department ..	335,405
Surplus on States' railways in Funen and Jutland.	1,615,000
Contribution from the sinking fund	3,678,831

Expenditure.—The chief items are computed as follows :—

	Kronor.
Appanages	1,426,544
Houses of Parliament and Council of State ..	318,616
Interest on National Debt—	
Inland	6,771,937
Foreign	1,013,900
Pensions, invalids of war included	3,338,724
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	373,078
„ of Interior	1,466,649
Ministry of Justice	2,113,563
„ of Public Worship, &c.	743,133
War Department	8,584,204
Navy	4,427,464
Ministry of Finance	2,824,958
„ for Iceland	108,932
Sundries	2,454,515
Payment on the capital of the National Debt—	
Inland	200,000
Foreign	4,646,400
Expropriations for the railways in Funen and Jutland	1,100,000
Subsidy to these railways under construction ..	1,700,000

The cental system has now been introduced into the currency, and from January 1, 1875, the Danish currency is a krona (crown) at 100 öre. The krona is equal to one-half of the old Danish dollar, and its value in English money is, of course subject to variations, equal to 1*s.* $1\frac{1}{3}$*d.*

The exchange at par is 18 kronor equal to 1*l.*

(Signed) J. PAKENHAM.

Copenhagen, May 6, 1875.

Guatemala.

Mr. Locock to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Guatemala, May 22, 1875.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose Tables showing the import of foreign goods into Guatemala during the year 1874, and the Customs revenue derived therefrom, as well as a Comparative Table of the total imports and Customs duties during the last seven years.

It is necessary to make one or two remarks in the explanation of these Tabular statements, which are nearly, though not quite, a simple translation of those published by the Government.

In Table No. 1, the sums given under the column of "Duties," should be augmented by 55 per cent. for additional duties levied on the articles referred to. Account is taken of these additional duties in Table No. 4.

In the Comparative Table No. 5, the figures referring to the years 1873 and 1874, have been slightly modified from the form in which they appeared in the published Returns, where they were made to comprise certain receipts for warehousing, &c., which do not properly come under the head of Customs. Moreover, as they had not been included in the Returns of the previous years, the comparison was thereby vitiated.

As some of the most salient points of interest, it may be observed, that the cotton and woollen imports form together about one-half of the total amount of goods (reckoned according to value), introduced into the Republic; that slightly over one-half of the total imports comes direct from Great Britain; that after, but long after, Great Britain, France is the next largest customer for imports, while Germany follows not far behind; California, though geographically so close, and in such easy communication with Central America by means of the Pacific mail-steamers, supplies less than one-third of the amount furnished by Germany, and less than one-

twelfth of that derived from Great Britain; while the imports from the rest of the United States are even still smaller. This is easily accounted for by the very high prices which rule in that country. The trade between Guatemala and its sister Republics, is naturally of the smallest dimensions, inasmuch as with the exception of the natural products of the soil, and of the articles of the most simple necessity, which the five States have all been in the habit of producing for themselves, nothing, or next to nothing, is produced for exportation. Thus, Guatemala has, during the past year, received from Salvador, 24 packages; from Nicaragua, 8; from Costa Rica, 6; and from Honduras, none at all.

A comparison of the third column in Table No. 2 with Table No. 4, will show that the total Customs duty levied on imports in this State, amounts to about 40 per cent. Exports, on the other hand, are free. The published Returns omit record of them.

A reference to the last, or Comparative Table, shows that there has, during the last six years, been a rapid though not very regular increase in the import trade of the country. It was last year nearly twice as great as it was six years ago. The Customs revenue, on the other hand was, partly in consequence of the additional duty, increased during the same period, in the proportion of from 2 to 5, or 150 per cent.

The enormous disproportion between the amount of goods received by the Atlantic and Pacific ports, shown in Table No. 2, ought not to exist, unless, indeed, in the contrary sense; and, should the Government succeed in redeeming its promises of constructing a carriage-road to the Atlantic Coast, will speedily disappear. Almost the whole of the foreign trade of Guatemala is with Europe, and the Eastern portion of the United States. It is preposterous that all these goods should be transshipped at Panamá, passing over the most costly railway in the world, and eventually be conveyed to an open roadstead, where the landing is always attended with difficulty, and in case of bad weather, has to be deferred till the return voyage of the steamer from San Francisco. The route to the Atlantic Coast will, indeed be more than three times as long as the present one to the Pacific, but it will pass through easier country; a portion of it will lie along a navigable river, which can be utilized

for the conveyance of merchandize; and, above all, it will terminate in one of the best and most capacious harbours any where to be found, where vessels arriving direct from Europe will be able to discharge their cargoes in perfect safety at all seasons of the year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

(Table 1.)—IMPORTS into Guatemala by the Sea Ports, during the Year 1874.

Articles.	Invoice Value.	Duties.
	Dol. c.	Dol. c.
Oil	9,634 87	2,344 40
Steel	749 18	342 16
Rum	28,255 11	11,775 62
Cotton goods	1,064,127 32	255,922 07
Firearms	10,488 00	6,106 48
Billiard tables, &c.	1,169 00	336 67
Fire-engines, pumps, &c.	4,593 00	Free
Shoes, &c.	44,077 83	10,181 14
Cinnamon	16,932 55	4,987 28
Carriages	2,996 76	863 06
Wax	18,244 66	3,721 12
Beer	5,391 03	1,362 39
Copper plates	7,887 29	2,724 09
Eatables, pickles, fruits, &c.	35,266 47	7,031 11
Glassware	8,691 52	2,421 36
Various objects	5,557 17	1,433 01
Drugs	18,972 08	6,115 72
Swords	1,917 42	301 15
Mirrors	4,486 59	1,292 13
Tin	1,109 00	167 03
Sperm and sperm candles	15,008 81	4,695 05
Iron bars, plate, nails, &c.	57,603 99	27,818 33
Matches	4,826 25	2,477 84
Kid gloves	1,966 50	498 17
Flour	51,234 58	15,785 42
Printing materials	1,785 06	Free
Musical instruments	3,016 04	868 61
Agricultural instruments	15,359 39	Free
Toys	6,129 65	2,059 56
Woollen goods	301,677 93	78,001 09
Printed books	12,744 38	Free
Sweet liquors	9,326 67	2,701 28
Linen goods	61,555 19	15,313 16
Earthenware	9,347 52	4,781 45
Machinery	68,488 77	Free
Medicines	12,894 31	3,201 15
Haberdashery	100,628 43	28,311 88

Articles.	Invoice Value.	Duties.
	Dol. c.	Dol. c.
Wooden furniture	5,751 89	2,300 75
Paper	25,217 06	6,732 90
Perfumery	7,761 50	1,918 33
Petroleum	3,118 21	898 04
Pianos	5,176 07	1,490 70
Leather	28,512 63	4,041 19
Jewellery	34,293 51	1,371 74
Hardware	33,822 47	6,786 61
Fine and ordinary watches ..	10,548 13	1,195 99
Ready-made clothes	3,675 38	1,077 12
Empty sacks	26,381 92	10,614 48
Common salt	4,046 19	Free
Silk goods	201,570 57	47,811 81
Seeds	215 00	Free
Saddles	3,101 40	971 02
Hats	50,141 76	13,006 62
Cigars, &c.	2,638 05	577 44
Tea	2,899 12	1,285 10
Plate glass	3,753 20	1,757 88
Wine	96,400 72	25,700 51
Totals	2,571,165 10	635,524 21*

(Table 2.)—Total Imports, 1874.

	Packages.	Gross Weight, in Lbs.	Invoice Value.	Duties.
			Dol. c.	Dol. c.
By the Northern or Atlantic Ports	7,469	732,824	139,057 30	30,140 20
By the Southern or Pacific Ports	110,268	11,612,043	2,435,107 80	605,384 01
Totals	117,737	12,344,867	2,574,165 10	635,524 21

* These figures represent the amount of duties which should have been received, and must be diminished by 2,199 dol. 24 c., which had to be returned for damaged merchandize.

(Table 3.)

Countries from which Imported.	Packages.	Invoice Value.
		Dol. c.
England	26,847	1,328.582 71
France..	18,834	455,395 59
Germany	19,971	328,645 66
California	34,474	107,309 34
United States	6,039	99,075 24
Belgium	5,309	74,796 10
Switzerland	180	68,609 37
China	184	53,595 51
Spain	3,889	38,812 19
Ecuador	143	5,406 00
Cuba	429	5,153 20
Colombia	171	3,899 19
Mexico	1,211	2,438 00
Costa Rica	6	1,165 00
Italy	18	488 00
Salvador	24	410 00
Nicaragua	8	384 00
	117,737	2,574,165 10
Packing, commission, freight, insurance, and other expenses until arrived at the ports of Guatemala..	..	479,839 55
		3,054,004 65

(Table 4.)—Total Duties.

	Dol. c.
Net duty	633,324 97
Additional duty..	316,662 48
Special duty	74,511 12
Total	1,024,498 57

(Table 5.)—Comparative Table of Invoice Value of Imports, and Duties derived therefrom, during the Years 1868-74.

Years.	Invoice Value.	Duties.
	Dol. c.	Dol. c.
1868	1,664,842 00	470,971 36
1869	1,480,644 40	467,997 74
1870	2,445,949 41	636,115 87
1871	2,010,564 91	683,782 65
1872	2,269,214 03	838,102 99
1873	2,364,265 73	720,544 74
1874	3,054,004 65	1,024,498 57

Mr. Locock to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Guatemala, July 7*, 1875.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a tabular statement of the exports from the Republic of Guatemala during the past year.

They consist almost wholly of the natural products of the country, the only exception being segars and woollen fabrics, and these but for a trifling amount. More than three-fourths, reckoned according to value, of the exports of the State consist in coffee, of which one-fifth goes to England. The next article in importance is cochineal, but it only figures at about one-eighth of the entire exports; rather more than half of it goes to England. The other principal articles may be enumerated as follows, being placed according to their importance:—Hides, indigo, corn, woollen fabrics, deer skins, sugar, sarsparilla, india rubber, &c.

Of the total exports England takes not far from a fourth, and California and Germany but a little less, leaving the remaining portion to France, New York, Belise, and other countries.

I have the honour to add a comparative statement of the total exports from the Republic during the last six years. With the exception of the years 1871 and 1874, the exports show a pretty steady increase, having augmented during that period from 3,497,127 dollars (499,425*l.*) to 3,288,721 dollars (657,744*l.*)

The exports exceeded the imports during the past year in the proportion of very nearly 5 to 4, reckoned according to the original invoice values.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

Inclosure.

TABLE of Exports from the Republic of Guatemala during the Year 1874.

Articles.	Value per Pound.	England.		France.		Germany.		New York.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.
Indigo	1 25	780	975 00	..	..	..	..	1,794	2,242 50
Sugar	0 03	428,610	12,858 30	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balsam	1 75	180	315 00	..	..	..	..	216	378 00
Coffee	0 16	3,143,245	502,919 20	2,508,405	401,344 80	4,058,252	640,320 32	1,038,268	166,122 88
Cochineal	0 35	588,342	205,919 70	..	..	113,931	39,875 85	394,345	138,020 75
Deer hides	0 40	514	205 60	..	..	..	..	33,525	13,410 00
Cattle hides	0 16	140,170	22,427 20	..	..	399,039	63,846 24	80,547	12,887 52
Chocolate	1 00	230	230 00	100	100 00	40	40 00	..	..
Cigars	0 50	..	..	..	..	1,406	703 00	..	..
Cocoa	0 50	530	265 00	1,300	650 00	100	50 00	..	..
6,900 Cocoa-nuts (each) .	0 03	..	207 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coin	..	..	34,000 00	..	..	..	340 00	..	..
Various objects ..	Indet.	5,474	..	..	..	734	..	832	..
Frizol (black beans) ..	0 10	130	13 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cattle	Indet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
India-rubber	0 30	10,397	3,119 10	8,374	2,512 20	3,250	975 00	14,767	4,430 41
Stuffed birds	Indet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Woollen cloths ..	2 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vanilla	0 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	7 50
Sarsaparilla	0 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	15 00
		4,318,602	783,454 10	2,518,179	404,607 00	4,576,752	755,150 41	1,564,409	337,514 25

Table of Exports, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Value per Pound.	Belize.		South America.		California.		Belgium.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.
Indigo	1 25	5,200	6,500 00	649	811 25	56,494	70,627 50	..	..
Sugar	0 03	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balsam	1 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coffee	0 16	632,524	101,203 84	278,113	44,498 08	4,313,338	690,134 08	130,820	20,931 20
Cochineal	0 35	24,565	8,597 75	7,507	2,627 45	15,320	5,362 00	..	..
Deer hides	0 40	345	138 00	..	..	787	314 80	..	..
Cattle hides	0 16	6,999	1,119 84	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chocolate	1 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cigars	0 50	650	325 00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cocoa	0 50	..	..	225	112 50	..	..	..	..
6,900 Cocoa-nuts (each) .	0 03	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coin..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300 00	..	..
Various objects ..	Indet.	3,566	..	225	..	173,517	..	100	..
Frizol (black beans) ..	0 10	1,695	169 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cattle	Indet.	5,550	1,387 50	..	..	..	..	..	..
India-rubber	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stuffed birds	Indet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Woollen cloths ..	2 00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vanilla	0 50	..	..	416	208 00	..	..	..	..
Sarsaparilla	0 15	88,335	13,250 25	1,550	232 50	..	..	..	..
		769,429	132,691 68	288,685	48,489 78	4,559,456	766,738 38	130,920	20,931 20

Table of Exports, &c.—*continued.*

Articles.	Value per Pound.	States of Central America.		Spain.		Mexico.		Sums Total.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.		D. c.
Indigo	1 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	64,917	81,146 25
Sugar	0 03	32,375	971 25	..	..	..	..	460,985	13,829 55
Balsam	1 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	396	693 00
Coffee	0 16	..	..	516	82 56	54,900	8,784 00	16,158,381	2,585,340 96
Cochineal	0 35	300	105 00	..	..	..	..	1,144,310	400,508 50
Deer hides	0 40	..	..	..	..	..	..	35,171	14,068 40
Cattle hides	0 16	..	..	..	..	..	..	626,755	100,280 80
Chocolate	1 00	50	50 00	..	..	..	..	420	420 00
Cigars	0 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,056	1,028 00
Cocoa	0 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,155	1,077 50
6,900 Cocoa-nuts (each) .	0 03	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	207 00
Coin..	..	..	400 00	..	..	..	..	..	35,040 00
Various objects ..	Indet.	22,588	..	..	..	85	..	207,121	..
Frizol (black beans) ..	0 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,825	182 50
Cattle	Indet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
India-rubber	0 30	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,338	12,701 40
Stuffed birds	Indet.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Woollen cloths ..	2 00	14,242	28,484 00	..	..	..	..	14,242	28,484 00
Vanilla	0 50	..	..	..	..	..	..	431	215 50
Sarsaparilla	0 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	89,985	13,497 75
		69,555	30,010 25	516	82 56	54,985	8,784 00	18,851,488	3,288,721 11

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Exports from the Republic of Guatemala during the last Six Years.

	Value.	
	Dollars.	c.
1869	2,497,127	34
1870	2,562,390	85
1871	2,747,788	84
1872	2,691,800	19
1873	3,363,061	77
1874	3,288,721	11

Spain.

Report by Mr. Phipps on the Commerce of Spain and on the Operation of the Reformed Tariff.

Tendency in Spain towards protective duties.

A REVIEW of the commercial position of Spain during the last few years is a subject of considerable interest at the present moment, owing to the strong tendency in Spain to return as far as possible to a policy of protection, a tendency which even some of those who were formerly in favour of a modification of protective duties defend, on the plea that the exceptional misfortunes through which Spain has passed during late years warrant some protection of national industry, and that even the most flourishing industry demands a certain stability in order that its calculations and operations may be properly realized; that such stability could not within recent years be attainable, and that consequently any calculations founded upon them must be erroneous.

Favourable effects of tariff modifications.

The recent statistics, however, of Spanish commerce afford an opportunity of proving that, in spite of these exceptional circumstances, the modifications introduced in 1869 in the sense of free trade have been attended with favourable results. In that year the prohibition of the importation of many foreign manufactures was removed, while others which, for the protection of native manufactures, were taxed at a rate of 50 and 60 per cent. *ad valorem*, were admitted at a rate of 35 and 30 per cent. The importation of raw materials was almost rendered free, and foreign corn, which was formerly refused admission, was admitted at a low rate of duty. It was, moreover, stipulated that the duties exceeding 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, and which reached the rate of 30 and 35 per cent., should, within twelve years, be reduced to the rate of 15 per cent. The Table of Valuations, the assessment of which has formed the subject of bitter complaint on the part of foreign manufacturers and importers, was to be subjected to yearly revision by a Commission.

Spanish Commercial Treaties.

By the Budget Law of July 1, 1869, which is annexed to the Treaties signed with Italy, Austria, and Belgium, it was declared that progressive reductions should commence in the year 1875, thus allowing from six to twelve years to the manufacturing interests to prepare for the competition of foreign products, but it is almost certain that the intended reductions will not be carried into effect this year, though no fresh duties will probably be imposed.*

General commerce of Spain from 1849 to 1874.

The following are the statistics of the general commerce of Spain since 1849, when the first modification of the protective duties was introduced :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1849	5,870,000	4,780,000	10,650,000
1850	6,720,000	4,890,000	11,610,000
1851	6,880,000	4,980,000	11,860,000
1852	7,530,000	5,670,000	13,200,000
1853	7,340,000	8,360,000	15,700,000
1854	8,140,000	9,930,000	18,070,000
1855	10,240,000	12,590,000	22,830,000
1856	13,040,000	10,640,000	28,680,000
1857	15,550,000	11,680,000	27,230,000
1858	15,020,000	9,840,000	24,760,000
1859	12,620,000	12,260,000	22,880,000
1860	14,830,000	10,980,000	25,810,000
1861	20,200,000	12,700,000	32,900,000
1862	16,790,000	11,100,000	27,900,000
1863	18,980,000	12,200,000	31,180,000
1864	19,900,000	14,130,000	34,030,000
1865 to 1869 medium rate	17,227,344	15,763,627	..
1870	20,872,872	15,981,971	36,854,843
1871	14,354,168	15,195,612	29,549,780
1872	12,703,740	18,695,479	31,399,219
1873	12,472,402	22,566,126	35,038,528
1874	15,280,000	16,123,330	31,403,330

Comparison with regard to exports between 1849 and 1873.

If a comparison is made between the years 1849 and 1873, it will be found that the value of the exportation of wine increased 600 per cent., lead 450 per cent., olive oil 700 per cent., raisins nearly 400 per cent., flour nearly 700 per cent., cork 700 per cent., brandy 300 per cent., salt 350 per cent., sulphur 500 per cent., the whole value of exports having increased 500 per cent.

* By the Royal Decree of June 5, 1875, the application of the Law of July 1, 1869, has been postponed. The Governments of Italy, Austria, and Belgium have agreed to this postponement.

With regard to imports.

The importation increased during the same period a little over 200 per cent.; that of salt fish having increased, according to the duties levied, 12 per cent., sugar 150 per cent., cocoa 50 per cent., coal, &c., 400 per cent., iron and manufactured iron 400 per cent., hides and skins 20 per cent., timber, &c., 40 per cent. Textiles exhibit, on the contrary, a decrease, woollens having decreased 25 per cent., flaxens and hempens about 30 per cent.

Causes of development.

Independent of the natural increase to be anticipated in a period of twenty-five years, the impetus given to Spanish commerce may be accounted for by the effects produced by the suppression of the tithes and seigneurial rights, the alienation of Civil and Church property, the Tariff reforms, and the construction of railways, bridges, and high roads, while these advantageous circumstances have been modified by the constant civil wars and the successive bad harvests owing to drought.

Illustrations of direct effect of tariff modifications.

Probably the direct effects of the Tariff modifications are most forcibly illustrated by the following figures:—

IMPORTATION of Cotton into Spain during the following years:—

	Kilog.
1849	11,847,205
1868 (year preceding the Tariff reform) ..	22,416,915
1869 (year of Tariff reform but year succeeding revolution)	19,629,662
1872	27,799,915
1873	26,977,889
RAW SILK.	
1849	None.
1868	46,947
1872	94,407
1873	122,268
FLAXEN AND HEMPEN YARN.	
1849	2,998,384
1868	5,180,493
1872	4,827,186
1873	4,864,962
IRON.	
1849 (iron in bands)	3,600,874
1868 (iron and manufactured iron) ..	31,420,670
1872	38,835,012
1873	46,965,387
COAL.	
1849	76,474,540
1868	337,410,125
1873	417,233,000

The benefits of the Tariff reform are thus illustrated in the exports during the quinquennial period 1865-69, being the years previous to the Tariff reform, and the period 1870-74.

	1865–69.	Average of the Five Years, 1870–74.
	£	£
Metals	1,240,619	2,031,435
Mineral ore	201,345	1,257,369
Dried fruits	863,386	1,517,251
Fresh fruits	284,498	370,622
Olive oil	861,678	879,258
Esparto grass	222,376	430,899
Cork	354,471	644,760
	Kilogs.	
Flour	42,984,170	

Spanish wines

The article of Spanish exportation which has increased the most considerably during late years, and which holds the first place on the list, is wine, and owing to the great development of the wine trade with Great Britain it deserves special notice.

Alleged unfavourable treatment of Spanish wine in foreign tariffs.

Public attention has been recently called most especially in Spain to the unfavourable treatment of Spanish wines in certain foreign countries, and the principal complaints are directed against Great Britain, France, Portugal, and Venezuela. The superior classes of Spanish wines, such as those of Jerez and Puerto Santa Maria, command from their unrivalled quality a secure position in foreign markets, but the cheaper classes, such as those of Catalonia, experience a formidable competition on the part of French wines, which contain a far smaller proportion of alcohol, and in spite of the approval which these wines have met with when samples were produced at the Exhibitions in London and Vienna, it is bitterly complained that under the existing Tariffs they have little or no chance of a favourable sale.

Spanish wines in France.

Wines produced in countries which have commercial Treaties with France, it is well known, pay only on entering that country a duty of 30 centimes per hectolitre, while Spanish wines are subjected to a duty of 5 fr. 20 c. per hectolitre. The commoner descriptions, such as those produced in Catalonia, as a rule are made use of, it is alleged, for the operation termed "coupage," which, by diminishing their alcoholic force, and other-

wise improving them, enables them to pass as Bordeaux wine. Consequently the heavy duty imposed upon them causes them frequently to be introduced into France merely in an illicit manner, their authorized introduction being almost rendered impossible.

It is complained here, especially in reference to France, that the reductions in the Spanish Tariff made in 1869 were made without compensatory stipulations with the hope that other Governments would recognize their ultimate tendency, and would modify their Tariffs to a corresponding extent, and it is only, it is asserted, in the failure of this confident hope, that the Spanish Government contemplates the suspension of the revision of the Tariff announced for the 1st July this year.

In Great Britain.

With regard to Great Britain, the well-known complaint is again produced, that the duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon to which Spanish wines are subjected from their alcoholic strength exceeding 26 degrees, is almost prohibitive when they are placed in competition with French wines, which only pay 1*s.* per gallon. A criticism in one of the Ministerial newspapers remarks "that the conduct of the British Government in this respect is the more inexplicable, inasmuch as it had been the apostle of Free Trade, and that it had contributed to propagate these ideas by its publications, &c., while it now tenaciously declines to pay any attention to the arguments and representations of the Spanish and Portuguese Governments, who are both animated by the same object, namely, to induce it to renounce a prohibitive duty which can neither be explained or excused, whether viewed from an economic or a fiscal point of view, the latter being the one which it alleges in order to sustain the existing duties." It is added that it declines to modify a marked difference between articles of the same nature produced in different localities, from the mere fact that one description is naturally more alcoholic than the other. The same writer adds that the British Government possesses the unfounded apprehension that any modification may influence the enormous revenue derived from the duty on spirits; that the impossibility of effecting fraudulent distillation on any large scale in the event of this duty being modified has been sufficiently proved; that an obvious compensation would be obtained by the increase in the Customs

receipts more than compensating for the decrease in those of the Excise; and that, finally, "the British consumer has the indisputable right that an article necessary to existence, and advantageous to public health and public order, should not be excluded for fiscal reasons."

Such criticisms are, however, sufficiently refuted by the fact that the duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon is so far from prohibitory that, in 1859, the year preceding the adoption in the British Tariff of the principle on which the wine duties are based, Spain and Portugal, the countries most affected, imported into the United Kingdom wine to the extent of 3,629,325 gallons, and 1,797,854 gallons respectively; whereas, in 1873, 9,489,531 gallons were imported from Spain, and 4,097,733 from Portugal. This increase is totally independent of the natural increase in the value of the general exportation of Spanish wines, which rose only from 3,000,000*l.* in 1859 to 7,000,000*l.* in 1873.

The principle of the English duties is to admit natural wines, produced by the distillation of the grape, at a very low duty; but when extraneous spirit is added to such wine, duty is chargeable for the spirit in addition to the duty payable on the wine.

In Portugal.

With regard to Portugal, it is moreover complained that Spanish wines are subject, on introduction into that country, to double the duty paid by French wines, namely, 1,000 reis (4*s.* 2½*d.*), instead of 500 reis (2*s.* 1¼*d.*), to which figure the Treaty of Commerce signed on the 20th December, 1872, between Spain and Portugal, reduced it, a Treaty which was not, however, ratified by the Spanish or Portuguese Cortes, the latter not having examined it, it is alleged, as a whole, but having merely rejected the individual articles of the Treaty.

In Venezuela.

Venezuela, with whom Spain carries on extensive commercial relations (that country holding the ninth place on the list of imports and exports), has during the last year established a Tariff by which French wines are admitted free of duty, while Spanish wines are taxed at a rate equivalent, it is declared, to 88 per cent. of their value, namely, 5 cents per kilog. on importation, and 80 cents per 46 kilogs. as consumption duty. To the representations of the Spanish Government that of Venezuela appears to have defended its policy by

declaring that it wishes to prevent the extensive consumption of spirituous liquors; that French wines were consequently preferable; and that it is also desired that the cacão of Caracas should be admitted into Spain free of duty, a proposal which Spanish Protectionists are most unlikely to agree to.

In the United States.

In the United States on the other hand, the reduction of the wine duties, to take effect from the 8th of February last, is likely to have a favourable effect on the Spanish wine trade, especially with regard to the superior classes of sherry wine, as a cask of 100 lbs. will pay only about 10*l.* instead of 50*l.* Genuine sherry has hitherto, it is asserted, been but little introduced into the United States, but has been represented by artificially prepared wines bearing that name, which it is hoped will now be driven out of the market.

Increase of importation of Spanish wine of superior class into England.

It cannot be denied that the importation of Spanish wine into England has increased largely since the reduction of the duty from 5s. 9*d.* to 2s. 6*d.*; but such importation is mainly composed of wines of a superior quality, whereas those which Spain might offer at low prices to the working classes, or the less wealthy portion of the middle classes, cannot compete as at present prepared with those of France. Spanish wine producers would probably find it more to their interest to turn their efforts, as has been often suggested, to the preparation of their wines for the foreign markets at an inferior strength, than to rely on the short-sighted hope of persuading those in power to establish a retaliatory Tariff for their advantage.

Exportation of Spanish wine before and after tariff changes.

The value of the Spanish wine annually exported during the quinquennial period previous to the Tariff reform, viz., 1864-69, reached an average of 3,440,049*l.*, while in the period 1869-73 it rose to an average of 5,583,287*l.*, showing an increase of nearly 70 per cent. This increase is specially observable in Catalonian wines, which find a ready sale in spite of the fact alleged by the producers that the English market is nearly closed to them. The inquiries instituted by Her Majesty's Government in wine producing countries in 1861 led to the conclusion, however, that the limit of 26 degrees embraces, with very few exceptions, the natural wines of all countries. Many of the wines, indeed, which it was said were always above 26 degrees, and could not be

produced below that limit, are at present sent to England of a strength less than 26 degrees.

Limited amount of natural Spanish wine exported.

This assertion receives striking corroboration in the opinions recently published by Señor Luis Justo y Villanueva, a Professor of the School of Industrial Engineers at Barcelona, who has long devoted his attention to the condition of Spanish wines. He declares, in the course of a series of articles, that the larger proportion of the wine exported from Spain is not natural wine; but adds that if English and American importers give large orders for wines bearing the name of Malaga, sherry, port, &c., but which are manufactured in Tarragona or Barcelona, it is not surprising that producers should satisfy this demand. He, however, declares that this course, though affording a temporary development of the exportation, is prejudicial to the ultimate interests of wine producers; that the many excellent classes of pure Spanish wines are unknown in foreign markets, but are altered by the admixture of sugar, alcohol, elder, &c. The Catalonian wine producers reply that their wines do not "travel," owing to the insufficient amount of alcohol which they contain. Señor Justo y Villanueva proceeds, however, to show that out of 500 analyses which he has made of pure Catalonian wines, the results evidence, in most cases, a proportion of alcohol amounting to from 11 to 14 per cent., that it is possible to find a natural wine containing 20 and 24 per cent. of alcohol, just as a wine may be occasionally met with which contains only 5 or 6 per cent., but that these are rare cases, and that as a medium 11 to 14 per cent. can fairly be taken. To the assertion that French wines containing 11 to 14 per cent. of alcohol stand travelling, while similar Spanish wines do not, he cites instances of Catalonian wines which do not suffer this disadvantage. A wine called Catalonian Macon (produced by Don Francisco Gil, a large producer at Reus), containing 11 to 13 per cent. of alcohol, has borne transport to America without degenerating. Señor Oliva, another large proprietor of San Juan, Huesca, manufactures wines containing 12 to 14 per cent., which are exported for the Paris market, where they fetch 10 duros (2*l.*) per 122 litres, while they only obtain a local sale of 3 duros (12*s.*). These wines have been sent to England and across the Atlantic in their pure state,

Assertion that Spanish wines do not "travel."

Refuted by experiments.

not only for sale, but as a trial, with perfectly satisfactory results, and other smaller proprietors are it is stated directing their attention to the production of similar wines.

Replies from Spanish Consuls as to taste for Spanish wines abroad.

Circulars were sent about five years ago by a society of wine growers and merchants at Barcelona to the Spanish Consuls all over the world, in order to obtain some information as to the position of Spanish wines in the various markets. The replies were almost unanimous as to the ignorance existing as to pure Spanish wines; that the lower-class wines were mainly imported, especially in the north of Europe, for the purpose of adulteration; that there was no great development of the wine trade with the United States; that in Brazil the increased consumption of Portuguese wines—and in the River Plate of French common wines—was becoming very prejudicial to those of Spain; and nearly all the replies led to the conclusion that the cheap wines, as at present offered to the foreign consumer, were too rough and too coarsely prepared to become popular, and that they were imported principally to mix with other wines.

Exports of Spanish wine in 1873.

The statistics, however, of the exportation of wine during 1873 are, if they can be depended upon, not unfavourable.

	Litres.
Common wine	181,464,488
Ditto white	6,704,177
Catalonian	12,243,653
Sherry	50,017,580
Malaga	1,477,397
	251,907,295

valued at 7,363,581*l.*, the value of the wine exported in 1849 being 1,293,338*l.*

Representations made to Spanish Government in favour of protection of agricultural interests.

Another economical question which has recently attracted public attention has been raised by the memorials presented to the Government by Committees representing the corn-producing districts of Castile and Central Provinces in favour of an increase of the import duties on corn, in order to afford protection to Spanish agricultural interests. The partizans of such a measure maintain that no general rule can be laid down as to the limits of the protection which ought to be enjoyed by Spanish industry, but that it is necessary to examine

the position in which this special branch of industry is placed, owing to conditions existing in Spain itself which prevent its being able to compete in the foreign markets with corn produced in Roumania and the other corn-producing districts in the east of Europe, while, by the unrestricted importation of foreign grain, the Spanish agriculturist is deprived of that proportion of the home demands which he has been in the habit of satisfying.

It is stated on good foundation that in all probability the Government will decline to accede to a policy so obviously suicidal and shortsighted, and those holding sounder economical views have considered it necessary to publish numerous articles in order to refute the arguments adduced in favour of the proposed protection, as it is termed, of the agricultural interests.

Perhaps it is sufficient to call attention to the following figures :—

Spain imported in 1871 as follows :—

	£
Wheat, to the value of	620,165
Flour	395,026
Oats, barley, maize	137,172
	1,152,363

She exported in the same year—

	£
Wheat	100,000
Wheat flour	600,572
Rye	72,477
Rice	100,000
Garden stuff	68,056
Vegetables	160,247
	1,101,352

and in addition wine estimated at a value of 5,526,257*l.*; and yet it was seriously proposed to impose a duty which would raise the price of bread, the primary necessary of life, in order to protect the interests of the corn-producing Provinces, when Spain merely imports the amount of grain necessary to meet the requirements of the people, and any possible deficiencies in her harvests. It would be, in other words, giving a bounty to the grower of corn by a tax levied on its consumer, and a policy which would thus place a restriction on the necessary importation of corn would lose sight of the

principle that flourishing manufactures and commerce are indispensable to a flourishing agriculture.

Mining produce, statistics of.

Before proceeding to examine the statistics of Spanish commerce with each individual country, it may be well to give here the following information as to one of the largest sources of Spanish wealth,—mining industry. The figures are derived from official and semi-official documents.

Of the forty-nine Provinces of Spain forty-six are mineral, and are, in the order of importance, Almeria, Murcia, Oviedo, Jaen, Granada, Huelva, Santander, Ciudad Real, Cordova, Teruel, Biscay, Badajoz, &c.

The mineral exportation from Spain has increased as follows :—

	Exportation in 1853.	Exportation in 1873.
	£	£
Metals and mineral ore	280,643	3,231,761
Common salt	69,048	343,844
Lead in bars	803,589	1,571,992
	1,153,280	5,147,569

Difference in 20 years, 3,994,316*l.*

Number of mines in 1871.

The following was the number of mines at the close of 1871 :—

Iron	678	Lead and zinc ..	54
Pit coal	637	Tin..	26
Copper	445	Quicksilver	45
Zinc	342	Antimony	32
Argentiferous lead ..	398	Cobalt	11
Manganese	347	Sulphate of soda ..	43
Lignite	228	Sulphur	63
Silver	105	Asphalt	10
Common salt.. ..	96	Gold	14

Number of operatives.

The number of operatives employed therein was 43,498, and the production in the same year is stated as follows :—

	Metric Quintals.		Metric Quintals.
Iron	5,857,625	Argentiferous copper.	4,913
Lead	4,027,893	Pyrites	5,400
Copper	4,982,061	Quicksilver ..	210,246
Zinc	1,073,802	Manganese ..	152,687
Pit coal.. ..	5,897,076	Salt	382,334
Silver	132,653	Lignite	438,244
Argentiferous lead .	267,866		

Absence of recent statistics

It is to regretted that, at the present moment, no detailed statistics are available with regard to Spanish commerce during the year 1874, and that the last volume of the general statistics of the foreign commerce of Spain, though bearing the date of 1875, only applies to Spanish commerce during the year 1871. Less detailed statistics of the intervening years are, it is true, published from time to time, and are cited in the present Report; but the details of the commerce with each separate foreign country only apply to 1871, a year, however, which possesses considerable interest as illustrating the effects of the revised tariff of 1869 on Spanish commerce.

Statistics of commerce in 1871.

In the following observations with regard to the commerce of different nations with Spain, and of the operation of the respective tariffs, it must be borne in mind that the valuations of the Spanish Custom-house are calculated, as a rule, in excess of the real value of the articles at the seaports, consequently the per-centage duties, as stated below, cannot be exactly depended upon.

Spanish commerce in 1871 with Great Britain.

The country which holds the first place in Spanish commercial relations is Great Britain, and the total value of the commercial movement with Spain amounted in 1871 to 15,354,037*l.*, exclusive of the direct commerce with Gibraltar and the British Colonies. Of this amount 7,095,403*l.* is credited to exports and 8,258,600*l.* to imports.

Spanish exports to Great Britain in 1871.

The principal articles of export to Great Britain are as follows:—

	£
Wines	3,272,230
Metals (principally lead)	1,204,000
Mineral ore (principally copper, iron, and manganese)	965,465
Dried fruits (principally raisins)	514,584
Esparto grass	273,699
Fresh fruits	188,000
Cork	80,836
Cattle	145,308
Oil	50,876

Spain received in return from Great Britain the following products:—

	£
Flaxen and hempen yarn	1,266,655
Mineral coal	692,224
Metals	531,624

Imports from Great Britain in 1871.

	£
Railway matériel	213,046
Woollen textiles	188,984
Ships, boats, &c.	182,488
Raw cotton	209,780
Oil (for industrial purposes)	110,718
Cotton textiles	139,066
Machinery	116,908
Spirits	92,814
Linen textiles	121,043
Tulaya of abaca and jute	64,213
Raw and spun silk	112,176
Cinnamon	52,461
Indigo and cochineal	49,222
Cotton twist and spun cotton	52,420

NOTE.—The statistics published by the Board of Trade state that the Spanish imports into Great Britain were valued, in 1873, at 10,979,231*l.*, while the value of British exports to Spain, in the same year, was 4,527,817*l.*

No statistics are yet available in Spain with regard to British trade in 1873.

Effects of British tariff on Spanish products.

Great Britain admits free of duty the following important Spanish products:—mineral ore, metals, Esparto grass, cork, sugar, and cattle; while, on the other hand, Spanish wines, owing to the alcoholic scale, are subjected to a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon, representing, it is maintained, 40 per cent. of the value of sherry and superior Spanish wines, and 120 per cent. of the ordinary qualities. Raisins are subjected to a duty of 7*s.* per quintal, representing 22 per cent. of their value in the ports of exportation, while figs, which pay the same duty, are taxed at the rate of 66 per cent. *ad valorem* in the ports of exportation.

Effects of Spanish tariff on British products.

The Spanish tariff charges British products as follows:—Flaxen and hempen yarns pay 6 per cent. on their value; coal, 3 per cent.; materials for the construction of railways are admitted almost free of duty; raw cotton almost free; oils for industrial uses pay 8 per cent.; machinery, 6 per cent.; "tulaya de abaca y gute," 10 per cent.; raw and spun silk, 1½ per cent.; indigo, 3 per cent.; cinnamon, 20 per cent.; and spirits, 25 per cent. Iron and steel, manufactured or unmanufactured, is subjected to duties amounting to from 16 to 30 per cent.; woollen textiles, 20 to 25 per cent.; cotton textiles, 25 to 35 per cent.; linen textiles, 20 to 25 per cent.; cotton, twisted and spun, 30 to 35 per cent. It should be remarked, however, that all these duties

which exceed 15 per cent. would be susceptible of progressive reduction were the Law of 1869 carried into execution in its integrity.

The trade with England proves the immense value of such commercial relations to Spain. There is not a single branch of that trade of any importance which is not reproductive and necessary to the latter. England sells to Spain her raw materials in return for the produce of Spanish soil, and the statistics of trade with England during a period of many years merely prove that any retaliatory tariff in consequence of the alcholic scale, such as is often mooted, would only act to the disadvantage of this country.

Spanish trade with France.

France takes the next place on the list, and the total commerce with that country amounted in 1871 to 8,301,054*l.*, the imports amounting to 5,167,211*l.*, and the exports to 3,133,843*l.* The principal articles imported from France were corn and grain, woollen and other soft mixed textiles, raw cotton, silken tissues, flaxen and hempen yarn, iron and steel manufactured, raw silk, fine wool, cotton fabrics, dyes and colouring substances, refined sugar, machinery, jewellery, articles de Paris, &c.

The Spanish exports to France were the following, in the order of their importance :—Metals (principally lead) to a value of over 6,000,000*l.*, cork, grain, wine, principally of a common quality, to a value of 218,000*l.*, wool, silk (raw), cattle, mineral ore (principally iron and manganese), green and dried fruits.

In addition to the duties mentioned above as chargeable against England, the following are the highest duties levied on French productions :—Refined sugar, 35 per cent. ; "passementerie," 16 to 30 per cent. ; patent leather, 25 per cent. ; glass and crystal, 25 per cent. ; paper, 10 to 25 per cent. ; furniture, 16 to 20 per cent. ; flaxen tissues, 20 to 35 per cent. ; false jewellery, 20 per cent. ; playthings, 25 per cent. ; brandy, 25 per cent.

With regard to Spanish products, France has a Conventional Tariff with Spain, signed on the 18th June, 1865, under which lead and raw silk are admitted free of duty, dried fruits at 8 fr., excepting figs and raisins, which are admitted at 30 c., green fruits at 2 fr., esparto at 1 fr., per 100 kilog.

Among the Spanish products not mentioned in the Conventional Tariff may be mentioned—cork (in sheets), iron and manganese, wool (rough), rye, oats, and sulphur, which are admitted free. Corks pay 10 fr. 40 c. per cent. *ad valorem*, while common wine, a very important article of export, pays 5 fr. 20 c. the hectolitre, with an addition for the more alcoholic descriptions, equivalent generally speaking to 21 per cent. of its value at the ports of exportation. All the nations, on the contrary, which have Commercial Treaties with France, pay only 30 c. per hectolitre.

Among the articles of Spanish produce most harshly treated by the French tariff may be cited chocolate, which pays 160 fr. per kilog., or 53 per cent. *ad valorem*, as against 95 fr. 10 c. paid by the Powers having a Treaty; salt fish, 48 fr. per 100 kilog. as against 10 fr. In this latter article Portugal, in consequence of its favourable treatment in the French tariff, is a formidable competitor to Spain.

The following articles of Spanish produce are prohibited admission into France:—White and refined sugar, gloves, bottles, saddlery.

The French tariff, in consequence of the large number of Powers with which France has Commercial Treaties, is operative in its entirety, I believe, only against Spain.

With United States.

The total value of the commerce with the United States (which come third on the list) is only one quarter of that with France, and amounted in 1871 to 3,581,682*l.*; imports, consisting principally of raw cotton to the value of 2,000 000*l.*; petroleum and tobacco, amounting to 2,642,898*l.*; and exports, mainly dried fruits and lead, to 938,783*l.* Cotton and tobacco are admitted almost free, and petroleum at 10 per cent. *ad valorem*. With regard to the latter Article an attempt has been made by the Spanish oil producers to induce the Government to raise considerably the duty, and thus force less well-to-do classes to consume vegetable instead of mineral oil for the protection of their own industry. Spanish wines, according to an alteration made in the United States Tariff in February last, are taxed as follows:—The entry of wines containing more than 24 per cent. of alcohol is prohibited, non-sparkling wines imported in the bottle pay 1 dol. 60 c. per 12 quarts; in the cask, 40 cents per gallon.

The imports from Portugal attained a value of 602,757*l.*, exports of 836,672*l.*, the value of the total commerce being estimated at 1,439,429*l.*, but these figures are probably susceptible of modification, especially with regard to imports, as the large extent of the frontier line facilitates smuggling of Portuguese products into Spain, while the introduction of most Spanish articles into Portugal being free, there is little or no incentive to fraud. With Portugal.

The principal imports, in the order of importance, are wool, cattle, metals, corn, bones, dried fruits; the exports are pigs and other live stock, planks, &c., cork, fresh fish salt, &c. Cattle pay from 1 to 4 per cent., corn from 14 to 15 per cent.

Cattle imported from Portugal pay from 15 to 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, salt 33 per cent., cork 3 per cent., fresh fish 10 per cent.

The commerce with Sweden and Norway amounted to 772,884*l.*, exports 83,340*l.*, imports 689,544*l.* The latter are confirmed almost exclusively to "bacalão" (salt fish) valued at 371,050*l.* and timber. Owing to the almost general consumption in Spain of salt fish, it is considered by the Spanish Treasury as a source of revenue, and is taxed at the maximum rate of the Tariff, 35 per cent. Spain sends in return dried fruits, common salt, wine and esparto grass; her Treaty with Sweden contains a most-favoured-nation clause. With Sweden and Norway.

The total commerce with Italy was 417,054*l.*, imports 327,459*l.*, exports 89,595*l.* Italy exports corn, sulphur, charcoal, hemp, and marble, and imports from Spain metals (principally lead) common wine, and sardines. Lead is admitted almost free, wine at 11 per cent. *ad valorem*. The Italian-Spanish Commercial Treaty contains also the most-favoured-nation clause. With Italy.

Spanish trade with Belgium amounts to 532,965*l.* (nearly double the amount in 1870), the imports amounting to 420,318*l.*, and the exports to 112,647*l.* The principal imports were flaxen and hemp tissues, manufactured iron and steel (one tenth the amount imported from Great Britain), paper, tobacco, cheese, machinery, candles. Belgium imports from Spain, mineral ore, to the value of 50,000*l.*; sherry, 1,700*l.*; metals, chiefly lead and zinc; esparto grass. Sherry is taxed at 50 c. per hectolitre, or 0·22 per cent.; lemons, oranges, &c., With Belgium.

35 per cent.; raisins, 21 per cent. Mineral ore is admitted free. Belgian products pay as follows: 15 per cent. on manufactured iron, 10 per cent. on paper, 20 to 25 per cent. flaxen textiles, 20 per cent. on cheese, candles, paraffine, and starch. Materials for the construction of railways are admitted almost free. The Commercial Treaty between the two countries contains the most-favoured-nation clause.

Commercial relations with other countries.

I have given more detailed accounts of the trade between Spain and the above-mentioned nations during 1871 owing to the interest attached to the commercial negotiations which during recent years have been instituted by them with Spain, but very important commercial relations also exist with Turkey, Russia, Algiers, Gibraltar, Brazil, and the Spanish Republics of South America.

General increase in 1871 against 1870.

A comparison between the trade of the years 1870 and 1871, shows that in the latter year the trade with Belgium and Portugal was double, that with Great Britain increased about 30 per cent., with Sweden and Norway about 25 per cent., with the United States about 15 per cent.; while that with Italy showed little alteration, and that with France decreased nearly 25 per cent., doubtless owing to the effects of the war.

Abstract of articles by Señor Ruiz Gomez relative to Spanish commerce in 1873.

As no detailed official statistics are published by the Government which apply to Spanish commerce since 1871, I annex here an abstract of six articles published in the "Politica" newspaper by Señor Ruiz Gomez, who was twice Minister of Finance under King Amadeo. They contain details with regard to the commerce of 1873, a comparison being drawn between that year and 1849, with many interesting observations thereon:—

Comparison between 1849 and 1873.

In 1849 the imports amounted in value to 5,870,000*l.*, the exports to 4,780,000*l.*; in 1873, or in twenty-five years, they had reached respectively 12,470,000*l.* and 22,566 126*l.*, being an increase of about 6,600,000*l.* in imports and 17,786,000*l.* in exports.

During this period the value of the wines exported had arisen from 1,293,338*l.* to 7,363,580*l.*, an increase of 6,070,251*l.* In 1849 these wines were chiefly Jerez (sherry) and Malaga. In 1873 they included Catalonian wines to the amount of 1,250,000 litres, of the value of nearly 300,000*l.* Thus the wine exported from Spain in 1873 exceeded in value by 2,563,581*l.* the whole of the exports in 1849.

The following is a comparative table of the exports of 1849 and of 1873 :—

	1849.	1873.
	£	£
Wines	1,293,338	7,363,581
Olive oil	285,770	2,085,147
Raisins..	271,438	961,472
Flour	226,726	1,498,188
Cork	175,765	1,283,531
Spirits	128,754	331,145
Nuts	79,313	178,506
Saffron..	50,014	252,236

In 1873 the exports included, in addition those of 1849, wheat to the value of 2,210,000*l.*, and dried fruits, such as almonds, ground nuts, and miscellaneous, which, in addition to other nuts and raisins, reached the value of more than 1,500,000*l.* sterling. Since 1849 a new branch of the export trade had sprung up, that in fresh fruits ("frutas verdes") including lemons, oranges, grapes, and miscellaneous, to the value of above 500,000*l.* In addition, seeds ("granos") of various kinds, and vegetables were exported in 1873 to the value of 340,000*l.*, and metals and minerals ("metales y minerales") to the value of 3,221,561*l.*, including quicksilver, copper, iron, lead, zinc, &c.

Increase in 1873 compar with 1872.

The increase in the exports between 1872 and 1873 in five articles alone (wine, flour and wheat, minerals, olive oil, and dried and fresh fruits) was nearly equal to the whole value of the exports in 1872, there being in addition spirits, cork, sheep, salt, saffron, esparto grass, wool, silk, and liquorice to the value of about 3,250,000*l.* sterling, and preserved alimentary substances ("conservas alimenticias") soap, paper, and pastes for soup to the value of above 457,000*l.*

Exports in 1873.

The principal exports from Spain during 1873 may be classed in the following manner.

1st Class—	£	£
Wines	7,373,581	
Spirits	331,145	
		7,704,726
2nd Class—		
Wheat	2,213,453	
Other grain	158,376	
Vegetables	182,360	
Flour	1,498,188	
		4,052,377

	£	£
3rd Class—		
Dried fruits	1,669,338	
Fresh ditto	508,088	
		2,177,426
4th Class—		
Olive oil	..	2,085,147
5th Class—		
Cork	1,315,712	
Esparto grass	249,059	
Saffron	276,517	
Liquorice	15,146	
		1,856,434
6th Class—		
Sheep	369,476	
Wool	188,547	
Silk	168,263	
		726,286
7th Class—		
Metals	1,843,398	
Minerals	1,373,163	
Salt	343,844	
		3,560,405
Industrial Class	..	457,152
Grand Total	..	22,619,953

During the financial year 1874-75 the taxes levied upon real property ("inmuebles"), produce, and flocks, including the 2 per cent. augmentation (? for war tax) amounted to more than 6,400,000*l.*, and on mines and mineral wealth, including war contributions, to 96,000*l.*

Imports.

As regards imports, their value was in 1849 (as before stated) 5,870,000*l.*, in 1870 it had risen to 20,870,000*l.*, in 1873 it had fallen to 12,470,000*l.* The imports were in 1849 in the order of the amount of duties paid upon them, saltfish ("bacalão"), sugar, woven goods, cocoa, silks, coal, yarns, raw cotton, hempen and linen threads, textures, cinnamon, iron, hides, wood, and glass. In 1872 the five most important imports were cotton, silk, iron (raw and worked), and coal, to the value of 5,032,243*l.*; in 1873 the value had fallen to 4,654,500*l.*

Tariff reform in 1849, impulse given by.

The reform of the tariff on the 17th July, 1849, gave the first impulse to the development of Spanish commerce; already in 1856 the value of the imports had arisen from 6,870,000*l.* to 13,040,000*l.*

The following table shows how industrial wealth had increased.

		Kilog.
In 1849.	Raw cotton imported	11,909,560
1868.	„ „	22,416,915
In 1849.	Soda	—
1868.	„	46,967
In 1849.	Linen thread and hemp	745,696
1868.	„ „	5,180,493
In 1849.	Iron and implements	—
1868.	„ „	31,420,670
In 1849.	Coal	193,020,010
1868.	„	337,410,125

In spite of outcries and menaces a further reform and lowering of the tariff took place in 1869, and with the following results, notwithstanding civil war and perpetual political crisis.

In 1873 there was imported—

	Kilog.
Raw cotton	76,500,000
Abaca, jute, &c.	2,395,000
Iron in bars	10,397,000
Cocoanut oil	6,073,000
Dyes	1,270,000
Abaca, jute, and hemp tissues	31,851,000
Hides and skins	22,345,000
	Tons.
Coal	1,342,000

A comparison of the imports during the four years previous to, and for four years after, the reform of the tariff in 1869 gives the following results:— Imports previous to and after 1869.

	Before.	After.
	Kilog.	Kilog.
Raw cotton	76,500,000	117,250,000
Abaca, jute, &c.	2,395,000	3,097,000
Iron in bars	10,397,000	24,858,000
Cocoanut oil, &c.	6,073,000	14,549,000
Dyes	1,270,000	3,128,000
Abaca, jute, and hemp thread ..	31,651.000	35,955,000
Hides and skins	22,345,000	29,442,000
	Tons.	Tons.
Coal	1,342,000	1,876,000

"The comparison of the four years preceding and following 1869, affords a further proof of the result of the lowering of the Tariff:—

		£
1865.	Value of imports	12,860,000
1866.	„ „	12,390,000
1867.	„ „	11,790,000
1868.	„ „	11,090,000

		£
1870.	Value of imports	15,980,000
1871.	„ „	17,690,000
1872.	„ „	18,690,000
1873.	„ „	20,560,000

"The agricultural resources of Spain support the country, pay the principal public charges, and leave a sufficient balance for the purchase of raw materials, and for the protection of native industry. It can also be proved that the Spanish manufactures and workshops not being sufficient for the wants of Spain, she imports a large amount of materials for clothing ('telas'), notwithstanding the duties on them.

"In 1873 Spain imported—

	£
Cotton thread	50,570
Cotton goods	207,026
Hemp and Linen goods	99,404
Woollen goods	287,673
Silk goods	113,390
Mixed stuffs	44,824
	802,887

"In addition, she imported from her Colonies—

	£
Sugar	1,203,477
Cocoa	342,193
Coffee	101,843
Cinnamon	73,643
	1,721,156

"The remaining imports consisted of ships ('embarcaciones'), salt-fish, wood, hides and skins, chemicals, spirits, machinery, telegraphic apparatus, glass, steel, tin-plates, perfumery, paper, furniture, carriages, &c., amounting altogether to the value of 12,470,000*l.*

"There are no duties on exports, nor any inducements to raise their price; whilst, on the contrary, the imports are sold in the market, increased in price by the duties paid upon them, and by commission, profits, con-

contributions, and other expenses. Thus, in Colonial produce—

	Value.	Paid in Duties.
	£	£
Sugar	1,203,477	315,511
Cocoa	342,193	144,220
Coffee	101,843	19,183
Cinnamon	73,643	14,439
	1,721,156	493,353

"The cultivator of the soil having to clothe himself and his family, pays for duties on fabrics, which are not produced by the national industry, as cotton-thread, cotton, hemp, linen-woollen, silk, and mixed fabrics, to the value of 802,888*l.*, a total amount of 226,502*l.* Notwithstanding these heavy duties, articles of clothing are abundant, which proves that protected native industry imposes extraordinary sacrifices upon the consumer, the cultivator of the soil.

Duties paid in 1873.

"The sum total of the duties paid in 1873, amounted to 1,845,153*l.* There are no data to ascertain the amount of goods smuggled into Spain, another loss that falls upon agriculture. If, therefore, the national industry has developed itself notwithstanding revolutions and civil wars; and if it is found that it has greatly increased since the Tariff was lowered in 1849 and 1869, why should not a policy which has had such excellent results be persevered in? Why should not agriculture, that would buy more, and produce more, expending less, be favoured? Even Catalonia would, in the end, profit as much as any other part of Spain, by further reductions in the Tariff, as her real wealth consists in her agricultural produce.

Influence of tariff reforms favourable to general commerce.

Catalonian trade.

"In 1870, the four privileged Provinces of Catalonia traded with Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. They imported to the value of 5,996,143*l.*, and exported to the value of 2,884,306*l.* It would appear, therefore, that the loss of a balance against them of 3,111,837*l.* was for the most part borne by the other Provinces of the Kingdom. This is to a certain extent true, although, on examination, the details of the Customs Returns will show that Catalonia herself, in consequence of protecting her industries, had paid a very considerable portion of it

with her wines, fruits, and corks. Even with the privilege of the national flag, the value of her manufactures exported to Cuba scarcely reached a few millions of reals (1,000,000 reals = 10,000*l.*). She paid largely for raw material, and Colonial produce, without being able to extend her trade in the Colonies. Her most important articles of production are wines and cork, especially the former. Her exports to the American Colonies, for the greater part consisting of agricultural produce, exceeded, in 1873, the sum of 2,220,000*l.* Barcelona alone exported wines to the value of 740,00*l.*; Taragona, 400,000*l.*"

Señor Ruiz Gomez concludes by exhorting the Catalans to abandon their opposition to a reduction of the Tariff, and seeks to prove to them, that by abandoning protective duties they will increase the wealth of their Provinces, and even their manufactures. The immense advantages which Spain has already derived from the two reductions in her Tariff, and which she would gain by further reductions, are proved, he points out to demonstration by the Returns quoted.

Substance of opinions of those in favour of protection.

Those holding opposite views to Señor Ruiz Gomez are equally positive in their opinions as to the unfavourable effects of Free Trade measures on Spanish commerce, and it may, perhaps, be worth while to give briefly the substance of the numerous articles and publications expressing their ideas.

Branches of industry which have declined.

They admit that certain branches of industry have continued to prosper, but only, they maintain, in cases where the similar foreign product is sufficiently taxed in the Tariff. The mining industry, for instance, has prospered, but their views of political economy enable them to assert that its products only serve to feed the industry of other countries, mining not serving, as in France, Belgium, and Great Britain, to promote varied and important branches of industry. Ship-building they declare to be almost at a standstill, except where small vessels destined for the coasting trade are constructed, and the movement of Spanish vessels in the port of of Barcelona during the years 1869-73 shows no increase when compared with the period 1864-68. The produce of timber has diminished, little importance though that branch of industry possessed before 1869. With regard to wines, it is asserted that though the exportation has

increased, production has diminished, which argues a diminution of consumption.

To the complaints made by the oil-producers and corn-growers, who both clamour for protection, I have already referred in this Report.

The prognostications of a great increase in the export of fresh fruits have only resulted in an augmentation of 7,000,000 reals (about 70,000*l.*).

The export of spirits has diminished by one-fourth when compared with the average of the quinquennial period 1866-70. That of corks has also decreased.

It is pointed out that no new industries have been founded, no progress made in agriculture; and they finally attribute the general rise in prices, the deficiency of means of transport, the want of capital, the high rate of interest, &c., to the Tariff reforms.

Statistics of 1874 not encouraging.

It cannot be denied that the statistics which have as yet been published with regard to the year 1874 do not evidence results very encouraging with regard to the economical position of the country. The commercial movement exhibits a total value of 31,403,330*l.*, of which 15,280,000*l.* is credited to imports, and 16,123,330*l.* to exports. A comparison with the year 1873 shows that the imports have increased by about 2,800,000*l.*, while the exports show a decrease of 6,440,000*l.* On analysing these figures, it is found that the decrease in exports has become progressively more considerable throughout the year, amounting in December to 1,110,000*l.*. The reduction in the export of oil, which had been progressive throughout the year, amounted in that month to 136,600*l.*; of corks, to 50,000*l.*; dried fruits, 150,000*l.*; corn, 180,000*l.*; flour, 125,000*l.*; wool, 33,300*l.*; lead, 36,600*l.*; common wine, 240,000*l.*; sherry, 330,000*l.* The only articles which exhibit an increase during December are: Catalonian wines, 120,000*l.*; minerals, 26,600*l.*; oranges, 25,000; quicksilver, 16,600*l.*; salt, 5,000*l.*

A portion of this reduction, it is argued, is not due to the Civil War; that, for instance, during the whole year, in sherry, corn, and flour, being all to be accounted for by the state of the foreign markets, while the diminution in the export of oil, amounting to 342,000*l.*, is attributed to the bad harvest in the southern provinces. The decrease, on the contrary, in corks amounting to

940,000*l.*, and in dried fruits to 202,000*l.*, is exclusively laid to the charge of the Civil War.

Concluding considerations. Unfavourable conditions existing in Spain.

It may be confidently asserted that the Tariff reforms have been productive of advantage to the general commerce of Spain. The statistics of the years subsequent to that reform are in favour of such an opinion. It is rather to the unsettled condition of political affairs during recent years, to the interruptions of internal communications, to the effects of the repeated levies required for the civil war, and to the drain caused thereby on the resources of the country that we should look for a solution for this temporary and recent decrease in the commercial development of the country. Before 1868 the external debt of Spain amounted to 75,000,000*l.* (nominal), of which the interest was about 2,250,000*l.*, the internal debt amounted to over 60,000,000*l.*, the interest amounting to 1,750,000*l.** From 1868 to 1873 the capital and interest of the external debt had more than doubled, while the internal debt had risen to at least 115,000,000*l.*, if, indeed, any precise estimate thereof is possible. In June 1874 the total inscribed debt bearing interest, including the external and internal debts properly so called, and the debts due to civil and religious corporations, railways, &c., amounted to about 400,000,000*l.* When to all this is added the forced loans, the Treasury bonds, the securities deposited on account of temporary loans from the Bank of Spain and foreign and Spanish banks, it becomes possible to form an idea of the weight of debt under which the country labours. In corroboration of this I may add that official documents published during the present month admit the floating debt alone at 17,734,064*l.* Meanwhile the revenue cannot at any estimate be made to exceed 20,000,000*l.*, and a statement published in the "Official Gazette" by the Minister of Finance on the 7th April last, declares that the whole public revenue hardly yields to the public Treasury a sum sufficient to cover the annual expenses at their present scale of the military budget alone, the whole service of the debt and the manifold requirements of the whole system of the Government of the country being unprovided for.

* These Tables of the External and Internal Debt are taken from a recent article in the "Revue des Deux Mondes," May 15, and are said to be reliable.

By the statistics which have been cited in this Report it is possible to form some idea of the productive power of Spain, and of the innate vitality which the nation must possess in order to present even such an amount of commercial prosperity under the disastrous circumstances under which it is now labouring. It is to be hoped that these unfavourable circumstances will, under the apparently more settled state of Madrid politics, not long exist, and that when the country returns to its normal condition commercial development will rather be encouraged by the enlightened commercial measures of late years than be attempted by a return to reactionary and restrictive ideas such as have long been condemned in countries where sound economical views have triumphed.

(Signed) E. C. H. PHIPPS.

Madrid, May 25, 1875.

Wurtemberg.

Report by Mr. Saurin on the Financial Condition of Wurtemberg.

In Wurtemberg, as in all other small German States, those most important branches of Public Revenue and Expenditure, the Customs and the Army, being withdrawn from the control and cognizance of the Chambers, the statement of the Minister of Finance to that body, from which the annexed Estimates for the year 1875-76 are drawn, must necessarily lose much of its interest, and can but imperfectly represent the true financial position of the country.

The whole amount with which the Local Representatives are called upon to deal is only about 25,000,000 fl., or little more than 2,000,000*l.* sterling; and, were it not that the railways are State property, would be diminished by about three-quarters of a million. This, however, is an increase on last year's Estimate of nearly 11,500,000 fl., owing to higher Estimates for the Departments of State Debt, Interior, Churches and Schools, and Finance; and is due to the general rise of prices, the change of the currency, to a railway loan, and to an increase both in the numbers and in the pay of all officials. This last class includes the numerous professors, schoolmasters, and ministers of various religious denominations who are paid by the State, and figures in the Budget, not only under the Department of Churches and Schools, which absorbs one-quarter of the total Estimate, but also in Item 6, Ap. A, that of Pensions.

To meet the above Estimate the State domain supplies nearly 13,000,000 fl. drawn from railways, Post, telegraphs, salt works, forests, and chases, the most productive being the railways, with a contribution of about 7,250,000 fl., and the forests with one of about 3,500,000 fl.

The construction of the Wurtemberg railways, owing

to the configuration of the country, has been costly, and their net yield, after deducting working expenses, does not average above $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

Taxation, direct and indirect, is estimated to produce about $11\frac{2}{3}$ millions of florins, a sum which, as will be seen by reference to Appendix B, is only arrived at by imposing an additional 20 per cent. on all the indirect taxes and on the income tax. In spite of this a deficit remains of about 1,500,000 fl.; but the Treasury reserve fund is sufficient to meet this, and to remain, with a surplus of nearly 200,000 fl. Adding to this the still unspent portion of the Wurtemberg share of the French indemnity, the Government finds itself with nearly 5,000,000 fl. in hand. More than 1,000,000 fl. must be then deducted for Extraordinary Disbursements, on account of roads, school, and public buildings, libraries, and gymnasiums, leaving a surplus of 3,874,665 fl. (about 320,000*l.* sterling) for future Budgets. It is, however, a question how, when once that fund is exhausted, the unelastic revenues of the country can be made to cover, not only the increasing local expenditure, but also its share of the Imperial deficit, which this year amounts to 3,384,077 40 fl., or more than 250,000*l.* sterling.

The State Debt cannot be called exorbitant, nor can it be said to press heavily on the country.

The total now amounts to 191,618,101 fl. (or about 16,900,000*l.*), including a loan of 20,000,000 fl., just concluded for new railway lines. The service of this Debt is estimated for 1875-76 at a little over 9,250,000 fl., a sum which is, to a great extent, met by the returns from the railways, on account of which the greater part of this debt has been contracted. Thus of the 191,000,000 fl. of Debt, the railways take 156,000,000 fl., leaving as State Debt proper only 35,000,000 fl., not quite 3,000,000*l.* sterling.

(Signed) DUDLEY E. SAURIN.

Stuttgardt,
July 29, 1875.

Appendix (A.)—Estimated Expenditure for 1875-76.

	Fl.	kr.
1. Civil List	1,071,398	29
2. Appanage	154,641	40
3. State debt	9,270,780	14
4. Annuities	144,391	31
5. Indemnities	36,341	40
6. Pensions	726,093	40
7. Compensation allowances	13,556	40
8. Gratuities	165,060	00
9. Privy Council	42,685	25
10. Department of Justice	1,842,852	05
11. „ of Foreign Affairs ..	96,689	15
12. „ of Interior	2,568,832	33
13. „ of Churches and Schools .	4,318,156	34
14. „ of Finance	1,770,044	30
15. Payment of Members	216,416	40
16. Reserve fund	61,250	00
17. Quota to the German Empire ..	3,384,077	40
Total	25,883,268	36
	about £2,156,500	

Appendix (B.)—Estimated Produce of Taxation for 1875-76.

	Fl.	kr.
A. Direct taxation on—		
a. Landed property *b.* Dues *c.* Buildings *d.* Trades	3,900,000	25
e. Taxes on income of professional men, State servants, members of Royal Family, &c.	1,603,400	00
20 per cent. additional	327,600	00
Conversion into marks	5	25
Total A.	5,831,005	50
B. Indirect taxation—		
a. Excise, including the additional 20 per cent. and conversion	1,052,117	30
b. Dog tax	91,204	10
Additional 28¼ per cent.	26,220	50
c. Tax on inns	3,362,696	40
Additional 10 or 20 per cent. ..	633,311	40
d. Fees	560,000	00
Additional 20 per cent.	112,000	00
Total B.	5,837,550	50
Gross sum from Taxes	11,668,556	40
Addition from the surplus of former years	1,442,532	7
	13,111,088	47
Produce of Domain	12,772,179	49
Estimated Revenue	25,883,268	36

COMMERCIAL. No. 18 (1875).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARIES

OF

EMBASSY AND LEGATION

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, &c.,

OF THE

COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.

PART V.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1875.

LONDON:
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Austria.

Précis by Mr. Mounsey, Second Secretary to Her Majesty's Embassy at Vienna, of Letters published in the "New Free Press" with the object of proving that Austrian Industry has not suffered from the Tariff established by the Commercial Treaties of 1865-66, *&c.*

The author of these letters, though hopeful that ere long Austria will be able to adopt the principle of unconditional free trade, commences by admitting that the country is not yet ready for its realization. At the same time he considers that the amount of tariff protection to be afforded to native industry ought never to exceed the limits prescribed by the real and well-ascertained material interests of the country. Whilst, on the one hand, he thinks it unadvisable, for the sake of some prospective advantage, to destroy the productive forces now at work in existing manufactories, he, on the other, considers the artificial creation of branches of industry for which the natural conditions of existence are wanting as a costly and useless experiment. From this point of view he then proceeds to examine the question at issue between the free-traders and protectionists, viz., whether or not Austrian industry can prosper and progress under the commercial policy inaugurated by the Treaties of Commerce.

To prove that this is impossible, the protectionists, amongst other arguments, state that, since 1865-66 the balance of trade, then decidedly in favour of Austria, has steadily turned against it, as appears from the following Tables :—

Excess or contrary of total exports in millions of florins :—

1.

		Fl.
1865	+	87,700,000
1866	+	111,600,000
1867	+	113,100,000
1868	+	41,500,000
1869	+	19,200,000
1870	—	36,500,000
1871	—	73,100,000
1872	—	225,700,000
1873	—	159,500,000
1874	—	113,400,000

Excess or contrary of exports of manufactured goods:—

— 2.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.	
	Florins.	Florins.		Florins
1865	118,800,000	189,000,000	+	70,200,000
1866	91,000,000	185,300,000	+	94,300,000
1867	143,400,000	232,300,000	+	88,900,000
1868	216,900,000	230,400,000	+	13,500,000
1869	254,100,000	272,600,000	+	18,500,000
1870	262,900,000	258,800,000	—	4,100,000
1871	238,000,000	302,600,000	—	25,400,000
1872	375,400,000	265,100,000	—	110,300,000
1873	352,600,000	266,000,000	—	86,600,000
1874	297,800,000	247,500,000	—	50,300,000

But the inference that increased imports indicate decreased native production, erroneous in itself, is untenable in this case, because, as appears from Table 2, exports have likewise steadily increased; the excess of imports since 1870 is undoubtedly attributable to increased consumption; and, as will be seen below, Austrian industry, instead of retrograding, has made very respectable progress during the period under consideration.

3. Raw Material.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.
1865	99,300,000	110,600,000	— 11,300,000
1866	92,000,000	100,900,000	— 8,900,000
1867	109,000,000	96,700,000	+ 12,300,000
1868	118,100,000	104,400,000	+ 13,700,000
1869	113,600,000	91,200,000	+ 22,400,000
1870	113,700,000	86,700,000	+ 27,000,000
1871	149,500,000	104,600,000	+ 44,900,000
1872	145,500,000	94,100,000	+ 51,400,000
1873	129,500,000	124,000,000	+ 5,500,000
1874	205,600,000	122,600,000	+ 83,000,000

Hence it appears that, with the exception of the year 1873 (year of the financial crisis) the imports of raw material have steadily increased, and as it is impossible to admit that the productian of raw material at home has decreased in a similar proportion, it follows that the manufacturing interest cannot possibly have suffered from the Commercial Treaties since larger quantities of raw material have, subsequent to their conclusion, been worked up in the country.

With reference to these, the state of the four chief branches of Austrian industry, viz., the manufacture of: 1, linen; 2, cotton; 3, wool; and 4, iron, is then examined.

1. The imports and exports of raw material for the linen trade from 1862 to 1874 were as follows :—

4.

	Flax.		Hemp and Sea-grass.		Total.		Excess of Imports.
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66 ..	195,756	17,953	94,999	77,334	290,746	95,287	195,459
1867–71 ..	349,981	24,422	69,847	45,562	419,828	69,984	349,844
1872.. ..	385,607	37,075	107,424	53,285	493,031	90,360	402,671
1873.. ..	498,559	46,882	89,200	57,923	587,759	104,805	482,954
1874.. ..	605,088	48,719	104,541	51,610	709,629	100,329	609,300

Showing a constant increase in the imports; and, as it is not objected that the production of flax and hemp in the Empire has decreased in the same proportion, it is evident that the manufacture of linen must have

increased since the conclusion of the Treaties; a fact which is further proved by the increased export of flax and hemp yarns, as evidenced by the following figures:—

5.

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Exports.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	27,197	69,869	42,672
1867–71	42,792	81,607	38,815
1872	37,524	114,454	76,930
1873	30,656	154,634	123,978
1874	32,338	183,581	151,248

2. The statistics of the cotton trade are as follows:—

6.

	Cotton.		Remained for Home Consumption.	Cotton Yarns.		Excess of Imports.
	Imports.	Exports.		Imports.	Exports.	
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66 ..	433,967	32,734	401,233	118,329	5,200	113,129
1867–71 ..	908,792	50,435	858,357	198,162	4,336	193,826
1872.. ..	979,270	29,488	949,782	253,987	4,472	249,515
1873.. ..	887,503	36,986	850,517	206,591	5,571	201,020
1874.. ..	1,042,838	658	1,042,180	218,400	10,417	207,983

From these figures it appears that there has been an increase of 110 to 150 per cent. in the quantity of raw material which remained in the country for manufacture, and that the excess of imports in cotton yarns has nearly doubled itself under the Commercial Treaties Tariff. Unless, therefore, these increased imports of cotton and cotton yarns were burnt or thrown into the Danube, the manufacture of cotton must also have greatly augmented.

3. The imports and exports of wool have been:—

7.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	223,641	351,579	— 127,938
1867–71	293,204	357,834	— 64,630
1872..	367,782	217,593	+ 150,908
1873..	213,837	304,477	— 89,814
1874..	303,211	244,796	+ 59,887

A superficial examination of these figures would lead to the inference that larger quantities of wool have also been retained for home manufacture, since, in the period 1862-1866, there was an average excess in the exports over the imports of 127,938 cwt., whilst from 1867 to 1874, *i.e.*, when the Treaties were in force, this average excess fell to 25,000 cwt. This is, however, not the case, as since 1867 a great impulse has been given in Hungary to the cultivation of corn at the expense of sheep-rearing, and it is probable that the amount of wool produced at home has decreased by 100,000 cwt. per annum. The quantity of wool retained for home manufacture would therefore appear to have been much the same before and after the conclusion of the Treaties.

The imports and exports of woollen yarns were :—

8.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	32,964	11,434	+ 21,530
1867–71	69,559	12,601	+ 56,958
1872..	71,306	21,438	+ 49,868
1873..	56,066	20,828	+ 35,238
1874..	68,231	24,411	+ 43,820

Showing an average annual excess of imports of about 30,000 cwt. But, on the other hand, with the exception of the year 1872, there has always been an excess of exports of woollen goods.

9.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	10,960	69,230	+ 58,270
1867–71	53,635	78,309	+ 24,674
1872..	87,957	76,166	− 11,791
1873..	74,285	73,539	+ 1,254
1874..	66,377	74,514	+ 8,137

Thus, from 1862 to 1866, the average excess of exports of woollen goods was 58,090 cwt., whilst in the last eight years the excess has fallen to 14,000 cwt. It

is contended that this difference is the result of increased home consumption, and that there is nothing to prove that the manufacture of wool has been injured by the Commercial Treaties.

4. As to iron, it is not even suggested that the number of furnaces has decreased since the conclusion of the Treaties, and it is therefore impossible to assert that the production of pig iron, up to the year 1874, when the effect of the financial crisis of the previous year became felt, had fallen off; whilst it appears from the following Table that of raw and old iron for home manufacture, 3,000,000 cwt. more was annually imported than in the period from 1862 to 1866.

10.—Raw and Old Broken Iron.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862-66	222,683	29,391	+ 193,292
1867-71	2,620,307	14,201	+ 2,606,106
1872..	4,381,570	27,059	+ 4,353,711
1873..	3,552,146	41,291	+ 3,510,955
1874..	963,872	114,810	+ 849,062

Raw Cast Iron.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862-66	29,107	58,629	— 29,522
1867-71	139,794	44,202	+ 95,592
1872..	295,584	26,417	+ 269,167
1873..	265,378	21,212	+ 244,166
1874..	136,603	52,599	+ 84,004

As to manufactured iron and iron wares, the following Tables show plainly that increased imports are perfectly compatible with increased home production.

11.—Wrought Iron.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862-66	29,604	72,286	— 42,682
1867-71	261,182	91,067	+ 170,115
1872..	557,614	50,989	+ 506,625
1873..	272,815	53,351	+ 219,464
1874..	80,127	106,425	— 26,228

Sheet Iron, Iron, and Steel Plates, Wire, &c.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	30,827	55,420	— 24,593
1867–71	279,167	59,050	+ 220,117
1872..	537,695	51,312	+ 486,383
1873..	378,681	39,691	+ 338,990
1874..	105,004	72,808	+ 32,196

Iron Wares.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	53,931	154,302	— 100,371
1867–71	388,294	178,872	+ 209,421
1872..	585,350	229,414	+ 355,936
1873..	598,962	200,837	+ 398,125
1874..	408,981	255,907	+ 153,074

Whilst Table 12 bears evidence that the increase of both has been caused by greater consuming power.

12.—Railway Rails.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	31,465	3,994	+ 27,471
1867–71	1,549,124	2,087	+ 1,547,037
1872..	1,316,703	4,752	+ 1,312,031
1873..	1,049,633	14,251	+ 1,035,382
1874..	205,246	140,735	+ 64,511

Iron Machinery.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	127,606	38,627	+ 88,979
1867–71	364,760	56,593	+ 308,167
1872..	684,791	63,225	+ 621,566
1873..	577,579	149,596	+ 427,983
1874..	373,563	268,623	+ 104,940

Should further proof of the capability of the Austrian iron industry to compete with foreign manufacturers in the production of steel and iron wares be required, it will be found below.

13.—Steel.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	5,734	75,447	— 69,713
1867–71	15,058	71,660	— 56,602
1872..	22,224	72,357	— 50,133
1873..	12,827	64,345	— 51,518
1874..	7,536	91,951	— 84,415

Common ane Fine Iron Wares.

	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1862–66	27,260	99,308	— 72,048
1867–71	37,017	110,086	— 73,069
1872..	50,693	146,441	— 95,748
1873..	49,398	134,465	— 85,067
1874..	37,941	165,190	— 127,249

It results from the above statistics that the manufacture and export of linen have considerably increased; that the manufacture of cotton, notwithstanding increased imports of cotton yarns, has become more extended; that the manufacture of wool, though stationary, and not able to supply the home market, has not lost its exporting capabilities; and that the manufacture of iron has increased in an extraordinary manner.

Hence the author of these letters concludes that it is futile to maintain that Austrian industry has been injured in any of its important branches by the Tariff established by the Treaties of Commerce, and that the fact of the balance of trade having been turned against Austria is simply the result of increased consuming power in the Empire.

(Signed) AUG. H. MOUNSEY.

France.

Report by Mr. Adams on the New Convention with the Bank of France, and Conversion of the Morgan Loan.

Paris, November 15, 1875.

Since the 13th of March, the date of my preliminary report on the financial position of France, M. Léon Say, the new Minister of Finance, has laid before the National Assembly his plans for balancing the Budget of 1876. My present object is not to examine this Budget, but I may mention that, according to the "Exposé des Motifs" presented by M. Say in the month of May, the receipts for 1876 were put down at 102,933,715*l.*, whilst the expenditure was reckoned at 102,771,869*l.* The budget of receipts and expenditure would thus be balanced, leaving a small surplus of 161,846*l.* In fact, however, the general budget of expenditure for 1876, as passed by the National Assembly on the 3rd of August, amounts to 102,820,220*l.*, and the estimated revenue to 103,001,143*l.*, so that there is an estimated surplus of revenue over expenditure of 180,923*l.* To this surplus, however, as will be seen, an item of 6,000,000*l.*, being the repayment of part of the money borrowed from the Bank of France during the Franco-German war, should properly be added.

The "Exposé des Motifs" declares that the desired result has not yet been attained in this Budget, and that it cannot be considered as constituting what might be called the normal Budget of France. Two important questions remain to be solved.

The first relates to the revision of those new taxes which impede the development of the public wealth, but the present moment is not thought favourable for undertaking this reform. The inquiries commenced by Committees of the Assembly and by the Administration are not sufficiently advanced to admit of the subject of an adjustment of the direct taxes being discussed by the

Assembly, and no increase of these taxes is proposed. Similarly with regard to indirect taxes. Time must be allowed before some of these, which fetter native industry, can be replaced by others which will be more evenly distributed.

The second question relates to a sinking fund, and here too it is considered wisest to put the actual system of taxation on its trial before any such operation is attempted.

These two important questions being adjourned, how was the Minister of Finance to obtain the supplementary sums which would certainly be required for his Budgets ?

In the first place he has not had recourse to a loan. Such an operation, at the present time, was hardly desirable, and it was not absolutely necessary. There was no need to repay to the Bank of France the whole of its advances at once, or even to anticipate the payment of some of the annuities due to it from the State. This special debt, it must be remembered, only costs the Treasury 1 per cent. interest, or, more accurately, 90 centimes per 100 francs, the notes issued by the bank for the loans it has made being subject to a tax of 1 franc on every 1,000 francs. And a public loan would have borne at least 5 per cent. interest, so that the issue of a loan for the purpose of paying off the Bank would have been attended with a clear loss to the State.

M. Say, then, has not had recourse to a loan in view of the supplementary credits, but he has carried through two other measures, which I propose now to examine. They are :—

1. A modification of the Convention with the Bank of France.

2. The conversion of the Morgan loan.

With respect to the former measure, it is to be remembered that the original sum borrowed by the State from the Bank of France towards payment of the charges of the late war was 58,800,000*l.* This amount was to be repaid by annual instalments of 8,000,000*l.*, and this latter sum was in fact regularly paid in 1872, 1873, and 1874, so that in 1875 there remained due on this account 34,800,000*l.*

But in June, 1874, a new advance of 3,200,000*l.* was made by the Bank, so that the total amount re-

maining unpaid to it at the commencement of 1875 was 38,000,000*l.*

On the 3rd of May, 1875, M. Say made a fresh Convention with the Governor of the Bank of France, modifying the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1871. It contained the following Articles :—

1. Out of the sum of 8,000,000*l.* falling due in 1876, the Treasury may only repay to the Bank of France, during that year, 4,400,000*l.*, on condition that the difference (*i.e.*, 3,600,000*l.*) is carried over to 1877.

2. From and after the 1st of January, 1878, the residue of the original advance of 58,800,000*l.* shall be repaid by 5,400,000*l.* in each of the years 1878 and 1879.

3. The additional advance of 3,200,000*l.* agreed to by the treaty of the 4th of August, 1874, shall be repaid in the following manner :—

2,000,000*l.* in 1877, and 600,000*l.* in each of the years 1878 and 1879.

This Convention has been approved by the National Assembly. According to it the outstanding balance of the original loan which, after taking from it the 8,000,000*l.* to be paid in 1875, would amount at the end of that year to 26,800,000*l.*, is to be repaid as follows :—

	£
1876	4,400,000
1877	11,600,000
1878	5,400,000
1879	5,400,000
Total	26,800,000

A delay of a year is therefore allowed for the repayment of 3,600,000*l.*, which, by the original treaty, ought to be paid in 1876. But, inasmuch as the 3rd Article of the new Convention obliges the Treasury to make the first repayment of the fresh advance of 3,200,000*l.* in 1877, which is a year sooner than had been stipulated, if the repayment of the whole of the above 3,600,000*l.* were postponed till 1877, the amount thrown upon the Budget of that year would become excessive, and we accordingly find in M. Say's Budget of 1876 that the appropriations for the repayment of the balance of the original loan and of the advance in 1874, making together 30,000,000*l.*, have been somewhat differently arranged as follows :—

	£
1876	6,000,000
1877	12,000,000
1878	6,000,000
1879	6,000,000
Total	30,000,000

Inasmuch, therefore, as the amount originally agreed to be repaid to the Bank in 1876 was 8,000,000*l.*, there is a sum of 2,000,000*l.* disposable for the credits of that year.

Now, by the new Convention, the debt due to the Bank will be reduced to 12,000,000*l.* at the end of 1877 at latest, and this sum will be paid in moieties in 1878 and 1879.

M. Say proposes that the resumption of specie payments shall take place when the debt to the Bank is reduced to 12,000,000*l.*, *i.e.*, at the end of 1877.

Decreeing this two years in advance, M. Say argues, is only following the example given by England in 1817, and by the United States in 1875. England, he says, was true to the declaration then made in advance by the law; we think it will be the same with the United States. It is certain that in these two countries they might have waited for the date previously fixed, in order to come to a decision which would have been followed by immediate execution; one could equally wait in France.

On the postponement of the resumption of specie payments thus proposed, the "Economist" has an article in its issue of the 22nd of May last, arguing that the two reasons given by the French Finance Minister do not appear satisfactory. It says:—

"First, he appeals to precedent, and says, that America now, and England in 1817, announced their intention long beforehand, and gradually prepared for its performance. Why should not France, therefore, he asks, adopt a course which certainly succeeded in England, and which probably will succeed in America? But the reply is, that both in America and in England, the circumstances were different. In both countries there was at the time of the adoption of the resolution to return to specie payments an important premium on gold. In America it was nearly 12 per cent.; in England about 4½ per cent. In consequence an immediate

return to specie payments was impossible. Those countries did not then voluntarily postpone the step, of which they announced the determination. They were obliged to postpone it. But in France, on the contrary, the postponement is voluntary; there is not the slightest premium on gold in Paris, as compared with paper, and it is long since there has been any. The stores of gold and silver in the Bank of France are the greatest which the world has ever seen in any similar position, and the greatest which it has ever had. There is not, therefore, any reason in France for imitating the policy of States which were unprepared to resume specie payments. As far as can be judged, France is as well prepared for that step as she is likely to be, and almost as she can be.

"The second argument is more peculiar. M. Léon Say says, that the loan of 58,800,000*l.* received from the Bank of France during the Franco-German war is as yet unpaid, and that, therefore, the return to specie payments must be postponed until it is so. At first sight there seems no connection between the two operations; but what M. Léon Say means is, as we understand, this: During the war the French Government borrowed from the Bank of France the large sum which has been stated at 1 per cent., and, at the same time allowed the Bank of France to increase its issue of notes and not to pay them in specie. The Bank derived large profits from that increased issue, and the Government had a share in it, because it obtained a loan at the very low rate of 1 per cent. But if specie payments are resumed, possibly the note circulation of the Bank of France might fall; the issue consequent on the suspension would cease, and the level of the circulation might approach to that current before the war. The equivalent for which the Bank lent its money at a low rate being thus withdrawn, that money, it is argued, ought in fairness to be repaid. And certainly either the money ought to be repaid, or the rate of interest adjusted. But as far as we can judge, it would be better to adjust the rate than to pay the money. The evils which an inconvertible currency inflicts on a country —the uncertainty which it introduces into all dealings between man and man; the impossibility of long credit; the exclusion from exchange business, to which any kind of uncertainty in the currency is fatal

—are so great that the obtaining a limited sum of money at a cheap rate for a short time is not to be weighed for any instant in comparison with them; the good so obtained is not to be thought of as a compensation for the loss incurred. Especially in France, where industry is subjected to so many burdens, and where it requires every aid, there is no worse finance than to save a small sum in taxation at the cost of making commerce uncertain, and of enfeebling the productive power of the country.

"We cannot but hope, therefore, that in the interval of more than two years that are to run between this and the 1st January, 1878, these arguments may be reconsidered, and that it may be decided that France should at once resume the specie payments which will so much aid its industry, and for which it has made such large and costly preparations."

With regard to the second measure mentioned above, viz., the conversion of the loan of 250 millions, called the Morgan loan, the amount of the annuity which figures in the Budget for the interests of this 6 per cent. loan is 692,000*l.* By a Bill, presented to the National Assembly by M. Say, and passed by it on the 31st of May last, the above sum is retained on the Budget, but is assigned for 39, instead of 31, years to the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, in exchange for a sum of 581,671*l.* of 3 per cent. Rente, which this Caisse had bought on account of the Savings Banks. The Caisse having accepted this arrangement, the inference is that, at the end of 39 years, it will not have been a loser, but will have been reimbursed the capital belonging to the Savings Banks which it now transfers to the State.

The "Caisse des Dépots et Consignations" has thus been substituted for the holders of the Morgan Loan Bonds, with this difference: that the annuity to the "Caisse" is to last thirty-nine years, instead of thirty-one—*i.e.*, eight years longer. There will also be a saving to the State of 14,000*l.* a-year, the sum which has been required for exchange, commission, and other charges connected with the loan. All these charges, during thirty-one years, represent a capital of 200,000*l.*

The above sum of 581,671*l.*, 3 per cent. Rente, was offered to the holders of the Morgan Loan Bonds on the following principle:—It was proposed that each holder

of a 6 per cent. bond for 500 fr., bearing therefore an annual interest of 30 fr., should deposit his bond with all unmatured coupons at the Treasury, at the "Caisses des Receveurs des Finances," or at the bank of Messrs J. S. Morgan and Co., in London, on one of three days—the 12th, 13th, or 14th of June, and should obtain for it a 3 per cent. Rente Certificate for 30 fr., upon condition of paying, between the 1st of July and the 31st of August, a sum representing the difference between the capital of a 6 per cent. bond bearing an annual interest of 30 fr., and the capital of a 3 per cent. Rente Certificate for 30 fr. The Minister of Finance fixed this difference, or "soulte," at 124 fr., or 4*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, at the exchange of 25 fr. 24 c., as also fixed by his Excellency. It was at the same time decreed that those holders of Morgan Loan Bonds who did not avail themselves of the above proposal should be paid off at par on the 1st of October, the date of maturity of the next coupon, and the Minister would then have the right to sell on the Bourse the amount of 3 per cent. Rente which he had offered in exchange for these non-converted bonds.

I learn that the number of Morgan Loan Bonds, of 500 fr., in circulation in the month of June last, amounted to 484,726. Of this number, 382,364 were deposited for conversion on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of June—297,951 in Paris and the departments, and 84,413 in London. There remained, therefore, 102,362 bonds to be paid off. By the 31st of October last 84,798 of these bonds had been deposited—49,735 in France, and 35,063 in England.

It is calculated that the benefit of the whole operation to the Treasury amounts to about 62,000,000 fr., or 2,480,000*l.*, made up of the two following items:—

	Fr.
1. From the *soulte* of 124 fr. on 382,364 bonds presented for conversion, as above	47,413,136
2. From the negotiation of 3,070,860 fr. of 3 per cent. Rente, allotted, at 30 fr. per bond, for the above 102,362 bonds not converted in June (less the capital sum of 500 fr. for each bond), say..	14,586,864
	62,000,000

It therefore appears that, by means of the modification of the Convention with the Bank of France, and the conversion of the Morgan Loan Bonds, the Minister of Finance may reckon upon an extraordinary sum of 4,480,000*l.* available for the Budget operations of 1876.

(Signed) F. O. ADAMS.

Grand Duchy of Hesse.

Report by Mr. Jerningham upon the Commerce and General Welfare of the Grand Duchy of Hesse.

Area. The Grand Duchy of Hesse has an area of 7,676 square kilometres, or about 2,866 English square miles, and constitutes, therefore, exactly the 71st part of the German Empire, the total area of which is 544,902 square kilometres, or about 203,490 English square miles.

Population. Its population, according to the last census in 1871, was 852,894, which is equal to the 48th part of the aggregate total of 41,009,999.

The next census will be taken next year, and the increase of population during the last four years will be ascertained; but, if the proportionate increase of the four years ending 1870 be applied to the two years 1871-72, then we find a sum of about 10,400 to be added to the 852,894 for the year 1873, and this increased amount does not alter the above-stated proportions.

If, however, the population be divided by the number of square kilometres in the area of the Grand Duchy, it will be seen that in 1873 there were no less than 112 inhabitants per square kilometre, or 301 per English square mile.

This fact is singular, when it be remembered that England stands at the head of the countries of Europe with a population of 389 per square mile.

Houses. The population of Hesse was lodged, in 1873, in 126,072 houses, thus giving a mean total of 6·77 persons for each house.

Division. Finally, this population was divided into 421,849 males, and 431,045 females, the difference in favour of the latter sex being 9,196.

Table I shows how the health and requirements of the Hessian people are tended to.

Medical care.

There is—

1 Doctor	for every	2,725	inhabitants.
1 Surgeon	„	65,067	„
1 Veterinary Surgeon	„	17,406	„
1 Dentist	„	56,859	„
1 Apothecary	„	4,589	„
1 Midwife	„	369	females.
1 House of Assistance	„	3,790	inhabitants.
1 Hospital	„	18,541	„

Production.

Harvest cereals.

Table II (A) shows the result of the harvest in 1873, as reaped upon an area of 504,983 acres, or 789 square miles, that is nearly one-third of the whole territory; and a total amount of 257,066 tons of cereals of all sorts, which is equal to 7 cwt. per inhabitant in the Grand Duchy.

Price of grain.

Table II (B) shows the price of grain as realized in 1873 at the six principal markets of the Grand Duchy, and points to an average price of 13*l.* per ton for wheat; 10*l.* a ton for corn; 9*l.* 10*s.* for barley; and 8*l.* for oats.

These prices were all in excess of those paid in 1872, and account in a measure for the differences in the sale.

Thus the difference of 1*l.* a ton did not affect the sale of wheat, nor arrest its progressive tendency; but that of 2*l.* a ton on each of the corn, barley, and oats produce, was felt in the sales of 1873, which realized 67,890 tons, in the aggregate, less than in 1872.

Table II (C) points to a total of 1,126,375 tons of vegetables of all sorts cultivated upon 278,491 acres, or 435 square miles.

This amount is equal to a production of a little more than 4 tons an acre, and to a possible consumption of 1 ton 6 cwt. per inhabitant.

Table II (D) indicates the amount of grass plants cultivated in the Grand Duchy for fodder, or industrial purposes.

275,193 acres of land, equal to 445½ English square miles, were devoted to this object, exclusive, of course, of the item marked "second grass crop," in the Table, and have yielded, inclusive of the "second grass crop," 490,685 tons of hay on an area of 265,665 acres, while 1,300 tons of flax were gathered upon 7,816 acres, and 192 tons of hemp upon 1,712 acres.

Hay.
Flax.
Hemp.

This would show a yield of flax equal to about 3 cwt. an acre, and of hemp equal to 2 cwt.

The hay crop did not quite reach 2 tons per acre.

Wine grapes were cultivated upon 78,111 acres, and yielded 715,586 gallons, or 6,625 pipes of wine, which is equivalent to about 20 gallons of wine per acre, as the following Table shows : Wine.

Provinces.	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.	
		Gallons per acre.	Gallons in all.
	Acres.		
Starkenbourg	1,590	22	34,940
Ober Hessen	37	11	376
Rhein Hessen	76,484	33	680,270
Grand Duchy	78,111	22	715,586

Hops for brewing purposes do not appear to have been cultivated on more than 79 acres, and to have yielded more than 6 cwt. an acre, or a total of 81 tons. Hops.

When it is remembered that a tax was collected in 1873 upon a quantity of beer equal to 16,941,702 gallons, it follows that the imported beer must considerably exceed that brewed in the country.

Table II (E) shows the amount of fruit grown in Hesse, and the price realized for it in 1873. Fruit.

Thus a total of 12,708 tons of fruit sold for 84,413*l.*, which is equal to an average price of 6*l.* 13*s.* per ton, and corresponds to a quantity equal to 84 lbs. per head of the population.

Tobacco was grown upon 3,265 acres, and yielded a crop of about 18 cwt. per acre, or a total of 2,477 tons. Tobacco.

With regard to the mines and minerals of Hesse, Table III will show that, at least under present management, they are neither very valuable nor very numerous, and that they do not point to a very prosperous future.

Ober Hessen is the only one of the three provinces in the Grand Duchy which lays claim to mineral wealth, and Table III principally shows the work done in that province.

The saline springs are also situated in Ober Hessen,

but they yielded 1,276 tons of salt less in 1873 than in 1872.

Commerce. The commerce of the Grand Duchy will be gathered, as to movement and prosperity, from the facts officially given in Table IV.

This Table shows the total of the exports and imports registered at the port of Bremen, on account of the Grand Duchy, during the ten years ending 1873.

The sum total of the increase upon the preceding year for five years, divided by the eleven years, gives an average annual increase of 6,073*l.*, but a similar process applied to six years when there was a decrease, shows an average yearly decrease of 6,316*l.*; so that, on the whole, there has been an annual average decrease of 24*l.*—a sum not to speak of, but which in a small State should have been on the other side of the scale.

Allowing for the war and its consequences, it is a significant fact that the exports were higher by 4,537*l.* in 1871, and 10,429*l.* in 1872, than in 1873.

A similar process shows that the imports reached an actual average yearly increase of 2,148*l.*, which certainly points to an increase of wealth in the people; but an examination of the imports will not dispel the idea which the want of elasticity shown in the exportation movements creates and justifies, namely, that of an industry at a standstill.

All these figures are obtained by an analysis of the goods registered at Bremen, or at Worms and Mayence on the Rhine.

It will be noticed that, although these two ports on the Rhine are so calculated to promote the industry and commerce of Hesse, and belong to the Grand Duchy, there is not one single steamer registered as belonging to Hesse in the official movements of the port of Mayence in 1873, as recorded below:—

UP.

Port of Mayence.

Countries from which they originate.	Steamers.		Sailing Craft.	
	Passenger.	Goods.	Laden.	Not Laden.
Baden	..	45	10	..
Alsace	..	..	..	..
Wurtemburg	..	..	1	..
Bavaria	..	6	6	..
Hesse	..	..	111	..
Prussia	1,443	64	632	..
Holland	260	94	11	..
Total	1,703	209	771	..

DOWN.

Countries from which they originate.	Steamers.		Sailing Craft.	
	Passenger.	Goods.	Laden.	Not Laden.
Baden	..	..	68	14
Alsace	..	..	..	..
Wurtemburg	..	..	1	..
Bavaria	..	42	441	3
Hesse	..	..	1,385	75
Prussia	454	1	85	1
Holland	199	1	..	1
Total	653	44	1,980	93

The total tonnage of these ships and their cargo was 133,850, which is equal to about 25 tons per craft.

Table V shows that the exports of the Grand Duchy have fallen off, and it is a curious sign of the diminished industry of the country when the exports to America, as shown in this Table, present so large a decrease as 46,000*l.* from the total of about 200,000*l.* which was realized in 1872, that is, of 5 per cent. Exports to America.

Hides and skins and leather goods generally produced the bulk of this difference, which is the more to be

regretted that, with wine, they constituted the largest items in the Hessian exports to America.

Exports from Hesse viâ Bremen.

Table VI exhibits the trouble taken by the Statistical Society of Hesse to note down minutely each exported article to foreign countries, and points to the accuracy of the Bremen Registration Office.

The sum total of exported goods through Bremen represents a sum of 65,792*l.*, and includes wine for nearly 20,000*l.*, a piano, and one carriage.

The latter article may come, however, more in demand owing to the increasing reputation of Messrs. Dick and Kirshten, at Offenbach, near Frankfort.

Imports into Hesse viâ Bremen.

Table VII confirms the existing standstill already too apparent in Hessian industry.

Out of a total of 99,021*l.* paid for goods of all sorts imported into the Grand Duchy, no less than 68,726*l.*, or nearly $\frac{7}{10}$ of the whole amount, was expended on tobacco, the primary substances for manufacture representing $\frac{1}{10}$, and food and clothing the remaining $\frac{2}{10}$.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1873 was 10,817,796 florins, or 924,600*l.*, and the expenditure 10,181,708 florins, or 919,160*l.*, thus leaving a surplus of 636,088 florins, or 5,440*l.*

The taxation is thus about 28*s.* a-head. The direct taxes, assessed at 4,050,681 florins, or 337,557*l.*, obtained that amount, with a difference of 68*l.* only on the credit side.

The indirect taxes, assessed at 1,911,752 florins, or 159,396*l.*, produced 170,219*l.*, or nearly 11,000*l.* more than had been expected.

Tobacco was taxed upon a quantity representing 18,056,109 square yards of tobacco-leaf, and produced to Government the sum of 4,928*l.*

In 1873 it had only been taxed upon 14,169,453 square yards, and had given a sum of 3,375*l.*

If the amount of the tax be divided by the number of the population, it will be seen that each individual in Hesse paid a tax of 1½*d.* upon tobacco.

Beer was taxed upon a quantity equal to 16,941,702 gallons, or 6,500,000 gallons more than in 1872, and produced 37,336*l.*

This great increase, notwithstanding a higher duty on beer, did not benefit the Government, which, in 1872, realised 42,754*l.* on 10,500,000 gallons.

These figures also show that the amount of beer consumed in Hesse is almost equal to 20 gallons yearly by every head of the population.

Alcohol produced 2,967*l.* in 1873 more than in 1872, the figures being 18,933*l.* and 15,967*l.*

A stamp duty on stamped paper and playing cards produced 5,200*l.*, which is less by 200*l.* than in the preceding year.

The octroi dues collected at Darmstadt, Offenbach, Giessen, Alsfeld, Lauterbach, and Mayence, produced 19,070*l.*, or 1,297*l.* more than in 1872.

In conclusion it will be remarked that a country with excellent, producing land, admirable timber, and the most navigable portion of the Rhine in its possession to convey its riches away, together with a thick population and a line of railways placing it in direct and easy communication with the whole continent, ought and should be able to obtain a marking place in the list of thriving and industrious nations.

(Signed) H. E. H. JERNINGHAM,
Acting Chargé d'Affaires.

STATISTICAL Table showing the Number of Hospitals and Physicians in the Grand Duchy of Hesse during the Year 1873.

Provinces.	Inhabitants.	Doctors.	Surgeons.	Veterinary Surgeons.	Dentists.	Apothecaries.	Students.	Houses of Assistance.	Midwives.	Hospital.
Starkenburg ..	349,297	129	6	22	5	76	11	136	392	19
Ober Hessen ..	253,646	82	3	13	2	52	14	36	474	17
Rhine Hessen ..	24,995	102	4	14	8	60	8	53	301	10
Grand Duchy ..	852,894	313	13	49	15	188	33	225	1,166	49
Which makes one for every	..	2,725	65,067	17,406	56,859	4,589	25,845	3,790	830	18,541
		of the population.							or per 36·9 women.	

Table II (A).—Table showing Results of the Harvest in 1873.

Note.—The land under cultivation is given in English acres, and the produce yielded is marked down in English tons and cwts.

1 hectare = 2·4736 English acres.
1 centner = 113·426 lbs., or say 1 cwt.

Provinces.	1. Wheat.			2. Corn.		
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		Land in Cultivation.	Produce.	
		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.
	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons. cw.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	13,649	1 5	6,995	48,842	0 17	17,625
Ober Hessen ..	52,286	1 5	27,745	54,879	0 15	16,665
Rhein Hessen ..	32,112	1 9	18,835	42,167	1 6	22,771
Grand Duchy ..	98,047	1 7	53,575	145,888	0 19	57,061

Provinces.	3. Spelt.			4. Various Cereals.		
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		Land in Cultivation.	Produce.	
		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.
	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	21,769	1 5	11,269	9,385	1 5	4,753
Ober Hessen ..	..	..	..	544	1 0	223
Rhein Hessen ..	1,046	1 17	790	..	..	..
Grand Duchy ..	22,815	1 1	12,059	9,929	0 15	4,976

Provinces.	Barley.			6. Oats.		
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		Land in Cultivation.	Produce.	
		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.
	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	38,635	1 11	24,824	29,755	1 6	16,130
Ober Hessen ..	53,383	1 4	26,596	47,933	1 4	23,942
Rhein Hessen ..	42,484	1 12	28,112	13,102	1 11	8,428
Grand Duchy ..	134,502	1 9	79,532	90,790	1 7	48,500

Provinces.	7. Millet.			8. Maize.		
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		Land in Cultivation.	Produce.	
		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.
	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons. cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	853	1 17	640	390	1 4	196
Ober Hessen ..	16	0 14	5	12	1 4	7
Rhein Hessen ..	23	0 14	7	44	0 5	4
Grand Duchy ..	892	1 2	652	446	0 16	207

Provinces.	9. Buckwheat.			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg	1,578	0	14	478
Ober Hessen	96	0	13	26
Rhein Hessen	..	..		..
Grand Duchy	1,674	0	9	504

Table II. (B.)—TABLE showing the Price of Grain and the Quantity sold on the six Hessian market places.

Markets.	Wheat.		Corn.		Barley.		Oats.	
	Quantity sold.	Mean price per 100 kilog.	Quantity sold.	Mean price per 100 kilog.	Quantity sold.	Mean price per 100 kilog.	Quantity sold.	Mean price per 100 kilog.
	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£ s. d.	Tons.	£ s. d.
Alsfeld	6,870	1 7 3	16,830	1 2 6	3,100	0 17 1	8,040	0 14 8
Grünberg	125,300	1 8 0	35,790	1 2 4	26,310	0 19 8	34,270	0 16 1
Lauterbach	9,130	1 6 4	10,810	1 2 11	4,560	0 19 7	9,930	0 15 3
Mainz	60,410	1 7 10	12,230	0 19 8	150	0 19 9	1,660	0 17 8
Bingen	130	1 8 6	2,650	1 0 10	190	1 0 2	830	0 17 9
Worms	2,260	1 7 10	15,700	0 19 6	3,230	1 1 1	1,420	0 17 4
	204,100	1 7 7	94,010	1 1 1	37,540	0 19 6	56,150	0 16 5
1872	195,690	1 4 11	132,460	0 16 10	50,950	0 15 6	72,180	0 12 4
Difference ..	8,410	0 2 8	38,450	0 4 3	13,410	0 4 0	16,030	0 4 1

100 kilog.=220·371 lbs., or about 2 cwts.

TABLE II (C).—Showing Result of the Cultivation of Vegetables in 1873.

Provinces.	10. Peas.				11. Lentels.			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.			Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	916	0	7	254	492	0	6	120
Ober Hessen ..	13,239	0	8	4,036	1,472	0	7	406
Rhein Hessen ..	193	0	8	65	321	0	8	113
Grand Duchy ..	14,350	0	7⅔	4,355	2,285	0	7	639

Provinces.	12. Beans.				13. Vetches.			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.			Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	737	0	7	206	1,724	0	9	632
Ober Hessen ..	497	0	7	152	2,874	0	10	1,146
Rhein Hessen ..	383	0	9	244	502	0	12	230
Grand Duchy ..	1,617	0	7⅔	602	5,100	0	11	2,008

Provinces.	14. Cabbage.				15. Poppies.			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.			Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	2,466	0	9	922	341	0	7	96
Ober Hessen ..	5,204	0	7	1,598	705	0	6	172
Rhein Hessen ..	5,880	0	17	4,096	175	0	10	76
Grand Duchy ..	13,550	0	11	6,616	1,227	0	7⅔	344

Provinces.	16. Chicory.				17. Potatoes.			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.			Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	8	7	17	54	75,086	4	10	274,282
Ober Hessen ..	..	..		..	50,837	4	13	191,728
Rhein Hessen ..	..	..		..	41,185	4	7	139,332
Grand Duchy ..	8	7	17	54	167,108	4	10	605,342

Provinces.	18. Turnips.				19. Cabbage (white).			
	Land in Cultivation.	Produce.			Land in Cultivation.	Produce.		
		Per acre.		In all.		Per acre.		In all.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg ..	29,671	8	4	197,665	3,314	4	15	12,777
Ober Hessen ..	20,510	8	0	135,004	3,564	3	3	9,884
Rhein Hessen ..	20,644	8	11	142,907	1,543	7	0	8,778
Grand Duchy ..	70,825	8	5	474,976	8,421	5	1	31,439

Table II. (D.)—Showing the Results of the Cultivation of—

Provinces.	Flax.			Hemp.			Fodder Herbs reduced to Hay.			Hay.			Second Grass Crop.		
	Land in Cultivation.	Products.		Land in Cultivation.	Products.		Land in Cultivation.	Products.		Land in Cultivation.	Products.		Land in Cultivation.	Products.	
		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.		Per acre.	In all.
	Acres.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Cwt.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons c.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons c.	Tons.	Acres.	Cwt.	Tons.
Starkenburg	611	1	65	1,571	1	169	23,484	2 3	41,510	75,737	1 12	99,317	55,894	9	42,637
Ober Hessen	7,203	2	1,234	77	1	8	17,904	1 17	27,362	122,775	1 11	155,445	93,955	6	66,086
Rhein Hessen	2	...	1	64	3	15	15,064	1 3	37,877	10,701	1 11	13,648	11,297	7	6,793
Grand Duchy ...	7,816	1	1,300	1,712	1½	192	56,452	1 14	106,759	209,213	1 11	268,410	161,146	7	115,516

Table II. (E.)—Table showing the Value of Fruit in Hesse during the Year 1873.

Provinces.	Apples.		Pears.		Plums.		Apricots.		Cherries.		Chesnuts.		Walnuts.		Grapes for Eating.		Total.	
	Tons c.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons c.	£	Tons c.	£	Cwt.	£	Tons c.	£	Tons c.	£	Tons c.	£
Starkenburg	1,686 17	11,016	711	3,752	124	880	0 18	13	55 15	480	...	...	3 14	66	17 13	180	2,599 17	16,387
Ober Hessen	5,688 0	33,894	410	1,736	295	1,441	0 5	4	164 5	1,122	...	...	2 2	49	0 6	6	6,559 16	38,032
Rhein Hessen	2,247 1	16,483	241	1,959	655	4,436	65 12	1,689	218 2	2,508	10	5	41 11	738	79 3	2,156	3,547 19	29,974
Grand Duchy ...	9,621 18	60,893	1,362	7,447	1,074	6,757	66 15	1,706	438 0	4,410	10	5	47 7	853	97 2	2,342	12,707 12	84,413

1 centner equal to 1 cwt. £1 equal to 12 florins.

Table III.—Mines, Minerals, and Salt Springs in Hesse.

(A).—Coals.

	Quantity.	Value.	Price per Ton.	Workmen employed.
		£		
1873	43,283	18,000	..	428
1872	46,576	19,184	8*s.* 8*d.*, 11*s.*, 9*s.*	463
Difference, 1873	3,293	1,184	1*s.*	35

(B.)—Ore.

	Quantity.	Value.	Price per Ton.	Workmen employed.
1873—		£	£ *s.* *d.*	
Iron	170,532	285,498	0 10 0	..
Manganese ..	3,271	9,810	3 0 0	1,133
1872—				
Iron	123,814	57,617	0 10 0	1,133
Manganese ..	4,422	13,265	3 0 0	..
Difference, 1873 ..	46,718	27,881	..	..

(C.)—Salt from Salt Springs.

	Quantity.	Value.	Price per Ton.	Workmen employed.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*	
1873 (kitchen salt) ..	14,144	11,864	2 0 0	198
1872 „ ..	15,420	29,169	2 0 0	198
Difference, 1873 ..	1,276	2,305	..	..

(D.)—Cast-iron from Ober-Hessen.

	Quantity.	Value.	Price per Ton.	Workmen employed.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*	
1873	13,141	64,504	4 18 0	338
„ wrought iron ..	3,205	41,392	12 18 0	

Table IV.—Showing the Exports and Imports from and to Hesse registered in the Port of Bremen during the Years 1863-73, inclusive.

Years.	Exports.						Years.	Imports.					
	German Value.	British Equivalent.	Increase upon Preceding Years.		Decrease upon Preceding Years.			German Value.	British Equivalent.	Increase upon Preceding Years.		Decrease upon Preceding Years.	
	Marks.	£	Marks.	£	Marks.	£		Marks.	£	Marks.	£	Marks.	£
1863	611,294	30,565	...	...	...	...	1863	1,497,831	74,891	...	...	...	...
1864	564,111	28,205	...	...	47,183	2,359	1864	1,679,676	83,984	181,845	9,092	...	...
1865	815,683	40,784	251,572	12,579	...	...	1865	1,509,341	75,467	...	...	...	...
1866	1,096,169	54,808	280,486	14,024	...	...	1866	1,737,287	86,864	227,946	11,397	170,335	8,517
1867	968,632	48,432	...	...	127,537	6,377	1867	2,423,504	121,175	686,217	34,317	...	...
1868	871,424	43,571	...	...	97,208	4,860	1868	1,623,356	81,168	...	...	...	...
1869	1,035,895	51,799	164,471	8,228	...	...	1869	1,467,785	73,389	...	...	800,148	40,007
1870	894,831	44,742	...	...	141,064	7,053	1870	1,462,379	73,119	...	...	155,571	7,779
1871	1,406,597	70,329	511,766	25,588	...	...	1871	2,005,019	100,251	532,640	26,632	5,406	270
1872	1,534,431	76,722	127,844	6,392	...	...	1872	2,862,890	143,145	876,871	42,899	...	...
1873	1,315,844	65,792	...	...	218,537	10,429	1873	1,980,425	99,021	...	...	...	...
Average	1,010,447	50,523	121,467	6,073	126,316	6,316	Average	1,840,863	92,043	226,047	11,302	882,465	44,123
Decrease average ...	...	...	126,316	6,316			Increase average ...	...	...	226,047	11,302	183,084	9,154
Increase ,, ...	...	...	121,467	6,073			Decrease ,, ...	...	...	183,084	9,254		
Actual decrease in each preceding year ...	...	...	4,849	243			Actual increase in each preceding year ...	...	...	42,963	2,148		

Table V.—Exports to America from the Grand Duchy of Hesse during the years 1872-73 and 1873-74.

No.	Articles Exported.	1st October, 1872, to October, 1873. Value in Florins.	1st October, 1873, to October, 1874. Value in Florins.	1872-73. Approximate Value in Sterling.	1873-74. Approximate Value in Sterling.	1874. Plus.	1874. Minus.
		Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	£	£	£	£
1	Leather, hides, and skins	809,078 32	448,275 38	67,423	37,356	...	30,067
2	Wine, brandy, beer, and cider	485,794 25	484,971 39	40,316	40,414	98	...
3	Leather goods	238,128 48	10,214 06	19,427	851	...	18,576
4	Jewellery and precious stones	184,668 40	204,750 20	15,389	17,062	1,673	...
5	Chemical substances and colours	164,838 51	119,765 09	13,736	9,980	...	3,756
6	Articles of fancy	116,564 24	128,683 53	9,720	10,723	1,003	...
7	Hops	113,662 07	124,095 14	9,471	10,341	870	...
8	Mineral waters	65,913 00	48,135 31	5,492	4,011	...	1,481
9	Books, papers, &c.	64,919 18	79,521 59	5,409	6,626	1,217	...
10	Hare-skins, &c.	31,245 34	48,713 16	2,603	4,059	1,456	...
11	Emery	19,275 24	11,853 57	1,606	987	...	619
12	Cigar holders and wood-work	16,911 58	3,629 38	1,409	302	...	1,107
13	Machinery and implements	15,196 40	19,204 45	1,266	1,600	334	...
14	Plums, dry and preserved fruit	14,355 52	10,963 17	1,196	913	...	183
15	Printing ink	9,370 40	24,070 03	780	2,005	1,225	...
16	Linen and woollen goods	7,488 04	11,441 02	624	953	329	...
17	Sundry	7,031 45	3,947 16	585	328	...	257
18	Porcelain and glass	5,032 51	5,819 06	419	484	65	...
19	Toys	4,169 52	...	347	...	...	347
20	Iron and iron-ware	3,682 21	2,851 58	306	290	...	16
21	Perfumery and soap	3,503 18	1,165 11	291	97	...	194
22	Empty bottles	2,817 06	...	234	...	...	234
23	Lamps	1,190 24	8,381 54	99	699	600	...
24	Oil and oil-cloths	826 03	...	68	...	...	68
25	Pipes	749 02	...	62	...	...	62
26	Furniture	300 12	3,544 18	25	295	270	...
27	Seeds	241 12	1,094 24	20	91	71	...
28	Gum	...	9,324 43	...	777	777	...
29	Pottery	...	4,695 17	...	391	391	...
30	Silks	...	1,562 54	...	130	130	...
31	Gloves	...	940 03	...	79	79	...
	Total	2,379,126 19	1,822,446 54	198,323	151,844	10,588	56,967

Balance in favour of 1872-73 ... ... 556,679 fl. 25 kr. = £46,389.

N.B.—I have calculated the £1 at 12 florins.

Table VI.—Exports from Hesse registered in the Port of Bremen during the Year 1873.

Products.	Quantity in German Measurement.	Quantity in English Weight.	Value in German Marks.	Value in English Money.
			Marks.	£
Beer	litres 4,518	pints 7,955	3,208	160
Fruits, dried, walnuts	ko. nt. 13,550	lbs. 29,887	7,041	352
Hops	,, 10,237	,, 22,575	30,305	1,515
Victuals—				
Preserves	,, 1,559	,, 3,438	1,806	90
Meat, &c., sausage	,, 325	,, 716	798	39
Venison and poultry	,, 212	,, 467	441	22
Cheese	,, 418	,, 939	540	27
Other victuals	,, 161	,, 355	458	23
Fruit, dried and fresh	,, 1,027	,, 2,265	776	39
Spirits, brandy	litres 1,741	pints 3,065	1,062	53
Liqueurs and extracts	,, 118	,, 207	340	17
Tobacco, raw	ko. nt. 800	lbs. 1,764	914	46
,, fabricated	,, 1,947	,, 4,294	2,941	147
,, cigars	thousand 1,220	..	25,827	1,291
Wine, Rhine wine	litres 395,740	pints 706,818	394,864	19,743
,, champagne	,, 2,608	,, 4,592	10,066	503
Other articles of consumption for druggist, potash, &c.	ko. nt. 2,155	lbs. 4,752	1,840	92
Medicinal leaves	,, 353	,, 722	575	29
Raw material	,, 1,269	,, 2,797	4,869	243
Prepared	,, 8,166	,, 18,011	16,259	813
Colours—				
White lead	,, 1,459	,, 3,218	1,039	52
Varnish	,, 1,564	,, 3,449	2,567	129
Ultramarine	,, 5,056	,, 11,151	7,412	370
Other colours	,, 9,354	,, 20,630	10,767	538
Hides, goats' hides	,, 146	,, 277	907	45
Hair, hare and rabbit fur	,, 4,363	,, 9,622	40,925	2,046
Oils, ether	,, 1,279	,, 2,820	7,768	388
Other raw materials	..	..	1,175	59
Cotton yarn	,, 67	,, 147	208	10
Wool yarn	,, 551	,, 1,215	4,270	213
Leather, tanned	,, 23,329	,, 51,455	149,115	7,455
,, varnished	,, 20,551	,, 45,329	312,211	15,610
Cotton goods	,, 2,039	,, 4,497	12,850	642
Hats, men's hats	,, 594	,, 1,310	4,486	224
Linen and linen goods	,, 539	,, 1,188	2,590	129
Woollen stuffs	,, 239	,, 527	2,744	137
Woollen and half-woollen goods	,, 314	,, 692	1,658	83
Manufactured goods	,, 2,644	,, 5,831	22,185	1,109
Books and other printed matter	,, 3,734	,, 8,235	12,724	636
Brushes	,, 68	,, 150	319	16
Iron goods, steel goods	,, 368	,, 811	1,413	71
Arms	,, 40	,, 88	374	19
Other iron works	,, 2,467	,, 5,440	3,532	176
Hardware	,, 2,296	,, 5,063	12,019	601
Paintings	,, 349	,, 768	1,710	85
Furniture	,, 11,898	,, 26,238	19,235	962
Carriage	carriage 1	..	4,312	215
Other articles of furniture	ko. nt. 699	,, 1,542	397	19
Glass	,, 388	,, 856	472	23
Woodwork, toys	,, 1,389	,, 3,064	2,500	125
,, fine	,, 10,098	,, 22,273	21,890	1,094
,, ordinary	,, 1,163	,, 2,564	1,100	55

Products.	Quantity in German Measurement.	Quantity in English Weights.	Value in German Marks.	Value in English Money.
			Marks.	£
Instrument—piano ..	piece 1	..	910	45
Mathematical instruments ..	ko. nt. 297	lbs. 654	1,090	54
Musical ditto	,, 1,726	,, 3,810	5,541	277
Clothing	,, 306	,, 674	2,847	142
Leather-ware	,, 10,465	,, 23,082	81,503	4,075
Machinery	,, 13,453	,, 29,673	11,420	576
Brass-ware	,, 680	,, 1,499	1,879	94
Metal-ware	,, 2,179	,, 4,806	7,045	352
Paper	,, 12,185	,, 26,876	11,774	589
Carpets	,, 2,314	,, 5,104	2,931	146
Other paper wares ..	,, 558	,, 1,231	1,132	56
Perfumery	,, 1,695	,, 3,687	2,638	132
Silks	,, 72	,, 159	2,215	111
Sealing wax	,, 389	,, 858	582	29
Playing cards	,, 453	,, 999	1,194	59
Stones	,, 10,968	,, 24,192	2,348	117
Straw goods	,, 52	,, 115	450	22
Watches	,, 1,887	,, 4,162	5,166	258
Zinc goods	,, 139	,, 307	336	16
Zinc sheets	,, 175	,, 387	562	28
Other industry wares ..	..	..	477	23
			1,315,844	65,792

Table VII.—Importations from the Port of Bremen into the Grand Duchy of Hesse.

Products.	Quantity in German Measurement.	Quantity in English Weights.	Value in German Marks.	Value in English Money.
			Marks.	£
Coffee	ko. nt. 3,402	lbs. 7,504	7,029	251
Fruit, dried raisins ..	,, 1,472	,, 3,247	889	45
,, other raisins ..	,, 1,034	,, 2,289	629	31
Southern fruit	,, 506	,, 1,115	683	34
Cereals, maize	,, 19,947	,, 4,350	2,782	139
Spices	,, 113	,, 247	399	20
Cassia lignea	,, 1,707	,, 3,760	3,236	162
Pinks	,, 1,386	,, 3,055	2,220	111
Pepper	,, 1,209	,, 2,664	1,654	83
Pimentum	,, 1,390	,, 3,067	785	39
Other spices	,, 162	,, 353	522	26
Honey	,, 55,836	,, 123,129	40,047	2,002
Preserves	,, 329	,, 679	420	21
Meat—				
Beef	,, 460	,, 1,013	313	16
Hams	,, 739	,, 1,625	718	36
Bacon	,, 618	,, 1,359	393	20
Lard	,, 3,839	,, 8,466	2,941	147
Other victuals	,, 1,046	,, 2,306	517	26
Dried fruit	,, 441	,, 971	364	18
Rice	,, 131,173	,, 288,946	33,574	1,679
Syrup	,, 1,424	,, 3,177	361	18
Spirits, arrack	litres 446	pints 785	429	21
,, rum	,, 1,372	,, 2,416	2,033	104
French liqueurs	,, 339	,, 597	417	21
Tobacco—				
Java	ko. nt. 3,046	lbs. 6,673	3,039	152
Manilla	,, 1,215	,, 3,340	9,116	451

Products.	Quantity in German Measurement.	Quantity in English Weights.	Value in German Marks.	Value in English Money.
Tobacco—			Marks.	£
Akyab	ko. nt. 650	lbs. 1,433	403	20
Havana	,, 13,744	,, 30,314	65,811	3,290
Cuba	,, 3,072	,, 8,165	10,196	510
Domingo	,, 8,462	,, 18,664	12,128	606
Porto Rico	,, 2,345	,, 5,171	4,354	218
Brazil..	,, 118,608	,, 261,614	205,407	10,270
Canaster (Varinas) ..	,, 11,313	,, 24,952	13,754	687
Columbia	,, 122,909	,, 271,100	369,158	18,458
Kentucky	,, 83,581	,, 184,354	86,790	4,339
Maryland	,, 169,530	,, 373,932	175,792	8,790
Ohio	,, 123,497	,, 272,398	134,732	6,737
Seed-leaf	,, 135,453	,, 298,768	173,480	8,674
Virginia	,, 80,927	,, 78,498	79,441	3,972
Hungary	,, 6,100	,, 13,454	4,758	238
Turkish	,, 14,002	,, 30,884	11,686	584
Cigars, Havana	thousand 39	..	7,191	359
,, Hessian	,, 89	..	7,425	371
Poles, American	ko.nt. 287,468	lbs. 634,066	104,388	5,219
,, Hessian	,, 1,425	,, 3,143	450	22
Tea	,, 1,749	,, 3,856	5,938	297
Wine, French	litres 388	pints 683	528	26
,, Spanish	,, 3,529	,, 6,214	2,242	112
Sugar, refined	ko. nt. 689	lbs. 1,518	675	34
Other victuals	..	..	373	19
Asphalt	ko. nt. 18,235	lbs. 40,220	638	32
Clay	,, 17,613	,, 38,846	1,251	62
Druggtsts' chemicals ..	,, 27,142	,, 59,858	55,427	2,771
Old iron	,, 13,650	,, 17,007	1,848	92
Indigo	,, 75	,, 165	408	20
Coloured goods	,, 180	,, 396	270	14
Hides, goats' hides ..	,, 2,673	,, 5,894	15,282	764
Wood	loads 284	,, 626	560	28
Cork-wood	ko. nt. 2,140	,, 4,719	2,004	100
Oil, petroleum	,, 134,613	,, 296,916	46,091	2,384
Other oils	,, 612	,, 1,351	493	25
Seeds	,, 1,441	,, 3,178	1,282	64
Sponges	,, 70	,, 154	470	24
Cotton	,, 9,709	,, 12,415	18,546	927
Wool	,, 25,019	,, 55,184	81,348	4,067
Other stuffs	..	..	2,329	117
English linen yarn ..	ko. nt. 883	lbs. 1,947	3,064	153
Leather, tanned	,, 2,889	,, 6,372	17,178	859
,, varnished ..	,, 6	,, 13	96	5
English woollen goods ..	,, 119	,, 242	620	31
Books	,, 381	,, 839	1,360	68
American iron works ..	,, 364	,, 802	574	29
American haberdashery ..	,, 644	,, 1,420	3,593	179
Paintings	,, 131	,, 288	549	274
Furniture	,, 168	,, 370	420	21
Wooden works	,, 169,640	,, 274,171	113,376	5,669
Clothes	,, 205	,, 452	1,894	94
American machinery ..	,, 13,118	,, 28,034	11,261	564
English ditto	,, 3,829	,, 8,445	3,353	167
Hessian ditto	,, 150	,, 330	300	15
Metal wares	,, 193	,, 426	640	32
Paper	,, 258	,, 569	321	16
Other implements.. ..	..	..	299	15
			1,980,425	99,021

Japan.

Report by Mr. Plunkett on the Mines of Japan.

Mr. Plunkett to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir, *Yedo, April* 22, 1875.

In compliance with a suggestion kindly thrown out by you last summer, I have selected the mines of Japan as the subject of the Report which I have now the honour of laying before you.

Unsatisfactory nature of information obtainable.

There are indeed few questions respecting which more contradictory statements are made; and, although I have taken every pains to sift the information which I have been able to collect, it is impossible, in the present unsurveyed state of the country, to come to any perfectly satisfactory conclusion.

Mines very numerous.

It is certain that in almost every portion of the Empire minerals of various kinds are found, and it is equally certain that in numberless parts of the country mines have been worked with more or less success for centuries.

At present many of these so called mines produce only a few pounds of ore in the course of the year, and the question to be solved is, how far are these ores susceptible of being worked to advantage? Are they really, as is contended by some, mines of untold richness, merely waiting to be brought to light by European capital and science? or are they, as others equally maintain, mere traces of a mineral wealth more apparent than real, and well-nigh exhausted by the workings of years?

Sources of information

Some interesting papers on the metallurgy of the Japanese have, as you are aware, been lately published

by Dr. Geerts, of Nagasaki; but for most of the more valuable information which I am enabled to communicate, I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. Hochstaetter Godfrey, Chief Government Mining Engineer, who, by the special instructions of his Excellency Mr. Ito, the Minister of Public Works, has placed at my disposal a number of papers and returns which have not hitherto been communicated to the public.

Without Mr. Godfrey's assistance I could never have collected the materials necessary for this Report, and I beg here to express openly to him my very best thanks for the courteous attention he has paid to all my inquiries.

My thanks are also due to Mr. Gowland, Chemist and Metallurgist of the Imperial Mint at Osaka, for information respecting some of the mines in that district, as well as to Mr. Aston and Mr. Gubbins, of this Legation, for the assistance they have kindly rendered me.

Yesso not included in this Report.

I shall not at present attempt to do more than give a sketch of the principal mining features of the main Island and the two Southern Islands. Yesso is also said to be rich in mines, but they are so far quite undeveloped, and the principal mining centres of Japan are still south of the Tsugaru Straits.

List of mines supposed to be in work.

I shall commence by laying before you two lists, which have been kindly prepared for me by Mr. Godfrey, and are therefore official. The first gives the number of mines working on lease from the Department (no mine can be worked without the special license of Government). The other gives the number of permissions to search for ore which have been granted by the Department.

1st. MINES working by Lease up to 1874.

Gold mines	55
Gold and silver mines	3
Silver	13
Copper mines (containing silver)	2
Silver and copper mines	69
Silver, copper, and lead	4
Silver and lead	6
Copper mines	126
Copper, lead, and silver	1
Copper and tin	1
Copper and lead	7

Copper and lead, antimony, and arsenic mines	2
Iron mines	9
Iron sand	416
Tin mines	2
Tin and lead	1
Lead	11
Lead and copper	2
Plumbago	1
Copperas	8
Antimony	2
Yellow realgar, arsenic and lead mine	1
Arsenic mine	1
Cobalt	14
Agate	3
Quartz	9
Marble quarries (spotted)	6
„ (white)	3
„ (striped)	1
Steatite mines	5
Flint	7
Mica	2
Amber	1
Sulphur	21
Realgar (orpiment)	1
Manganese	1
Alum	18
Salt mines	2
Fire-clay	3
Kaolin	110
Mineral resin	1
Coal mines	708
Petroleum	197
Total number of leases granted	1,856

2nd. List of Mines working for Exploration.

List of exploring licenses.

Gold mines	28
Gold, silver, copper, and lead mine	1
Gold sand (alluvial gold)	2
Silver mines	31
Silver and copper	24
Silver, copper, and lead mines	2
Silver and lead	1
Lead mine (containing silver)	1
Quicksilver mine	1
Copper mines	187
Copper and lead	13
Copper, tin, and lead	2
Iron	15
Iron sand	12
Stream tin mines	2
Stream tin and lead	1
Lead	29
Ochre	1

Smoky quartz	1
Marble quarries (white)	5
„ (striped)	2
Agate mines	4
Steatite	9
Flint	3
Rock crystal	9
Amethyst	1
Quartz	1
Sulphur	3
Copperas (sulphate of iron)	1
Salt	1
Antimony	4
Coal	163
Petroleum	77
Total number of mines working for exploration	637

General distribution of minerals.

In almost every portion of Japan are found ores of some kind, and there is scarcely a district in which there are not traces of mines having been worked. Most of these, however, are now either abandoned, or are worked in a very slovenly manner. As yet Europeans have exercised but little influence on Japanese mines, and the methods still pursued are, with one or two exceptions, almost the same as those which were used in olden times.

Native system of mining.

With the one exception of Takashima, mines in this country are still attacked exclusively by adits; for the Japanese never sink a shaft, and as they have nothing more powerful than bamboo pumps for lifting water, it is easily conceivable how soon it gets the upper hand, and how the number of abandoned mines comes to be so large. Most of the works are of the most paltry description, for the natives will not invest much capital in mines, preferring to loan out their money at the high interest usually obtainable. The Japanese burrow for ore, wherever they suspect its existence, without system or forethought. A hole is dug in the side of a hill, and, if ore is found, the work goes on; if not, it is soon abandoned, and a fresh hole is dug in some other spot which may seem to give promise of better things. If unsuccessful, this also is soon abandoned; but the two openings thus made, although perhaps not half a ton of ore has ever been extracted from either of them, are called mines, and help to swell the grand lists of mines which are so constantly palmed off upon travellers in

the interior, and help to encourage the idea that Japan is a real El Dorado.

Japan ranks low amongst mining countries.

I regret, however, to say that a careful analysis of the reports which I have received from various persons practically connected with Japanese mines does not lead me to take so hopeful a view of the subject, and I am brought to the conclusion that rich as Japan undoubtedly is in ores of every kind, she is not yet likely to take a high rank among the mineral-producing countries of the world.

Estimate of mineral production for 1874.

I beg to submit a most interesting table which has been drawn up for me at the Mining Department, showing the total mineral production of Japan for 1874, as far as they can calculate it. I believe it is the first estimate of the kind which has been yet attempted, and the result certainly comes far short of the general idea of the annual output.

In this, and all the following tables, where I have reduced foreign money into sterling, I have taken the dollar (Mexican) at 4*s*. 2*d*., and the yen (Japanese dollar) at 4*s*. 1*d*. This is not absolutely accurate, but it is sufficiently so for the purposes of this Report.

ESTIMATE of Mineral Production of Japan in 1874.

Mineral.	Total produced.	Price each.	Total Value.	Total Value.
			Yen.	£ *s*. *d*.
Coal	390,000 tons	5 yen	1,950,000	398,125 0 0
Copper	3,000 ,,	300 ,,	900,000	183,750 0 0
Silver	2,600 kwamme*	150 ,,	390,000	79,625 0 0
Gold	100 ,,	2,500 ,,	250,000	51,041 13 4
Iron	5,000 tons	30 ,,	150,000	30,625 0 0
Coal-oil	575,000 shos†	4 sen	23,000	4,695 16 8
Lead	185 tons	115 yen	21,275	4,343 12 11
Tin	7½ ,,	400 ,,	3,000	612 10 0
			3,687,275	752,818 12 11

Smallness of output.

It will be seen from the above Table that the total mineral produce of Japan is only 752,818*l*. 12*s*. 11*d*., of which coal alone represents no less than 398,125*l*., leaving 354,693*l*. 12*s*. 11*d*. to be made up by copper, silver, gold, iron, coal-oil, lead and tin. This return does not include sulphur, antimony, quicksilver, salt, &c., and I have not been able to obtain any estimate even of the amount

* 1 "kwamme" equal to 8¼ lbs.
† 1 "sho" equal to 1 quart, 1 pint, and 1 gill.

produced; but it is certainly not large. I shall therefore probably not be very from the truth, if I put the whole mineral production of Japan as not exceeding 800,000*l.* during the past year, and I need not point out how far short this would come of the idea once entertained of the mineral industry of the Empire.

Report divided into six parts.

I propose now to examine separately such class of mines, and see how they are at present situated and worked; and, for the sake of clearness, I will divide my Report into six heads, taking the principal minerals according to their relative importance, viz.:—

1. Coal mines and coal-oil wells.
2. Copper mines.
3. Silver and gold mines.
4. Iron mines.
5. Lead and tin mines.

and then,

6. I shall conclude with a few remarks on the general laws affecting mines, more especially those concerning the employment of foreign assistants, and those prohibiting foreigners from having any interest in mining property.

Coal mines.

1. *Coal Mines and Coal-Oil Wells.*

Coal is found in many parts of Japan, but the principal coal-fields are situated in the neighbourhood of Nagasaki.

The accompanying table shows the total estimated production of coal in 1874. It has been furnished to me by the Imperial Mining Department, and is absolutely correct as regards the output of the mines in Kiushiu; while, as regards the rest of Japan, the estimate has been framed upon a careful comparison of the materials at the disposal of the Department.

Production of coal in 1874.

STATEMENT of the Production of Coal in Japan in 1874.

	Tons.
Takashima	72,430
Mieke	66,324
Imabuku district	32,667
Taku „	22,198
Karatsu „	58,288
Hirado „	63,160
Rest of Japan, estimated at	74,933
Total	390,000

The total coal production of Japan is thus put down at 390,000 tons, of which no less than 315,067 tons come from the Consular district of Nagasaki.

Extension of chief coal-fields.

The annexed estimate of the probable extent of some of the principal coal-fields has also been furnished to me by Mr. Godfrey:—

Takashima	133	acres.
Mieke	16 (?)	square miles.
Imabuku district	70	„
Taku „	36	„
Karatsu „	40	„
Hirado „	120	„

Takashima mine.

The best developed and most productive of all the Japanese coal mines is undoubtedly in the small Island of Takashima, about ten miles from Nagasaki. It is coal of old formation, and is pronounced to be almost equal to English north-country coal. It contains only about 8½ per cent. of ash, whereas most of the other Japanese coals contain a very much larger proportion; some indeed go as high as 20 per cent. of ash. Up to 1868 this mine produced but a small quantity of coal, owing to the defective system of mining pursued by the natives, viz., working the seam from its highest level, where the coal strata crop up to the surface, and following it downwards in the direction of its dip. In that year Messrs. Glover and Co. obtained a joint lease of the property, in partnership with the Prince of Hizen, and sank a shaft of 150 feet deep on the opposite side of the island, where they struck the 8 ft. seam. These gentlemen were, however, unfortunately unable to continue the works, and the mine was bought by the Government, who continued to work it until a few months ago, when it was sold to a Japanese Company for the sum of 550,000 yen (112,291*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*). This gives the Company a lease, rent free, for fifteen years, after the lapse of which a fresh arrangement respecting rent will have to made. This mine, which in the year 1869 produced only about 35,000 tons, produced in 1874 no less than 72,428 tons of saleable coal, and there is every probability of this output being very much increased under its present management.*

Increase in coal exportation from Nagasaki.

The total exportation of coal from Nagasaki has indeed increased in a wonderful proportion of late years; for,

* I hear it is already producing 500 tons a-day.

whereas in 1866 it was only 10,185 tons, and in 1867 36,170 tons, it amounted in 1870 to 56,200 tons; 1871 to 102,700 tons; 1872 to 137,499 tons.

Mr. Flowers' Trade Report, 1874.

Mr. Consul Flowers, in his Report of March 28, 1874, speaking about the coal mines of his district, observes:—

"Should the Takashima mine ever get exhaused, the supply can be kept up from other mines in the neighbourhood.

"The Island of Koyaki contains many seams of coal, which for a great number of years have been worked intermittently by Japanese from the outcrops by inclined drifts. The coal was carried up on men's backs in baskets, and the water was raised by means of bamboo pumps, or water-wheels, when in great quantity. There is one seam at Koyaki of very good bituminous coal of five feet, another of seven feet thick, besides minor seams. Several of the mines on this island have been abandoned during the past year on account of not having proper appliances to work them. The coal having been all got from some distance from the outcrop, the raising of water and the maintenance of ventilation by the Japanese method being too difficult and expensive, the output from these mines must steadily decrease, and ultimately disappear, unless some important European system of working is adopted."

Mr. Flowers' Report, 1872.

In a previous report of January 31st, 1872, speaking of the increase of the coal trade in 1871, Mr. Consul Flowers also made the following observations, which are equally applicable to the present time, and in which I entirely concur:—

"There is no doubt that this increase will continue in a progressive ratio each year, as coal mining becomes more thoroughly developed, and looking at the employment this trade must give for shipping, together with its requirements in the way of foreign machinery, it forms a most hopeful feature in the prospects of the commerce of Nagasaki; whilst the revenue the Government will derive from it, and the employment it will afford to labour, makes it equally important and profitable to the Japanese.

"Much, however, might yet be done by the Government to push this trade to its utmost, and its own interests would best be served by doing so at once.

"Should the Japanese Government really wish to

develop the resources of their own country, the principal step to be taken is that of encouraging the outlay of more capital in coal-mining.

"This capital will not, I imagine, be found forthcoming from their own subjects. It is, therefore, to their own interest to approve of and assist the investment of foreign capital. This no doubt will be found as soon as the Government itself gives such securities as will induce foreigners to invest money under the soil of Japan."

Karatsu district.

The district of Karatsu, on the mainland of Kiushiu, north of Nagasaki, furnishes also a very large amount of coal, which, although not equal in quality to the Takashima coal, is far superior to most of that which is found on the main island. That is principally lignite, and of more recent formation; moreover, the large per-centage of ash prevents its being used except for household purposes.

Shiramisui district.

At Shiramisui, for instance, not far north of Yedo, is a coal-field extending about 12 ris (30 miles) long by 3 ris ($7\frac{1}{2}$ miles) wide. The mines are situated only a few miles from the sea-coast, but, nevertheless, the carriage by horse or by coolie, for there are no wheel-roads, is so high that the coal is allowed to accumulate during the summer, and is merely brought down in winter when required for household purposes. This coal has a large per-centage of ash, and is of little value either for steamers or for smelting; and as the greater proportion by far of the Japanese use only charcoal in their houses, the demand for this class of coal is trifling in the extreme.

Coal mine near Owasi Bay.

Captain St. John, of Her Majesty's ship "Sylvia," in a paper lately read before the Asiatic Society of Japan, mentions a coal-mine near the small harbour of Katsura, the produce of which is brought down there in boats. He speaks of there being large quantities of this coal for sale, but adds that he took in 50 tons of it for trial, excellent in appearance, which refused to burn; when mixed with some other coal which he had on board, it did fairly well. He describes it as being very hard and heavy, and free from dust.

Niigata district.

In the neighbourhood of Niigata are some rich mines of good coal, which is said to be used, not only by the native steamers, but also at the Government gold-mines

in the Island of Sado. Laid down at Niigata, it costs about 5 yen (20*s.* 5*d.*) per ton. I cannot, however, hear that much of it is exported, and as the principal mine at Akatani produced only 200 tons last year, I conclude that the total production must be very small. How far these mines might be susceptible of development under better management, is a matter of mere speculation, into which it is not my purpose to enter.

There is, however, little doubt that the want of a suitable harbour at Niigata is the principal cause of the neglect in which these mines are left. Ships being at present unable to cross the bar, have to discharge and take in cargo out at sea, thereby running so much risk, that freights and insurance more than cover any balance of profit there might be in exporting goods thence to another market. If the Japanese Government ever deepen the approaches, which might easily be done, there is no doubt that the rich mineral deposits of the provinces round Niigata will soon be more actively worked than has hitherto been the case.

Coal analysis.

The following analysis by Mr. Gowland of some specimens of the Japanese coals used in the Copper Refinery and in the various metallurgical operations of the Mint, will be read with interest:—

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Ash	12·760	6·487	10·595	9·877	9·557
Sulphur	·654	·435	·461	·588	·383

Cost of production.

The cost of production of coal varies a good deal, according to places, but I am assured by a competent judge in these matters that it may be put down on an average at 1½ yen (6*s.* 1½*d.*) to 2½ yen (10*s.* 3½*d.*) per ton. I have, however, been informed by another gentleman practically concerned in coal-mining, that in one case, at least, it goes as high as 3 yen (12*s.* 3*d.*) per ton. A peculiar source of expense to coal-owners in Japan are the straw bags, holding about 1 picul (133⅓ lbs.), in which the coal is packed, before it can be moved either on horseback or by coolie.

Coal-oil wells.

Coal-oil is found in considerable quantities in the neighbourhood of Niigata. Near Kurakawa, about 80 pits have been sunk, one of which is said to yield daily from 4 to 5 "to" of oil (1 "to" is equal to about

16 quarts). During the last six months of 1874, the Province of Echigo alone produced no less than 285,983 Japanese "shos" (107,243 gallons), worth 11,439 yen (2,335*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*), of oil. The production of Shinano, Ugo, and Tatomi, in coal-oil, is small, but the actual amount of it is unknown.

I am assured that the quality of the oil is very good indeed, and it is probable that with judicious management the supply might be greatly increased. At present, this oil is consumed entirely in the localities where it is produced, and there is not enough of it on hand to compete with the American coal-oil in Yedo or Yokohama.

Nagasaka, a town on the Shinanogawa, about 40 miles above Niigata, is the principal depôt of the coal-oil trade, and a small steamer is to run shortly between the two places.

The oil is refined usually by single distillation, 4 "tos" raw oil giving 3½ "tos" of refined oil. Sulphuric acid is not used, on account of its high price.* From the different stages of distillation three different qualities are obtained.

Sulphuric acid.

With reference to the above, I may remark that sulphuric acid might be produced in Japan both cheaply and abundantly; but the Government being able to sell a certain quantity at the present high rate, does not care to increase its stock, although there is no doubt that great commercial advantages would accrue to the country from a larger supply of cheap acid.

2. *Copper Mines.*

Copper.

Copper is found in numberless parts in Japan, and is usually of excellent quality. When properly refined, it takes a foremost place amongst the various kinds of commercial copper. It is almost invariably free from the injurious metals, such as antimony and arsenic. The copper ores usually worked in Japan yield from 2½ to 12 per cent. of copper, although richer specimens are also sometimes found.

Places where copper is found.

The annexed list, abridged from Dr. Geerts' report above alluded to, will show the Provinces in which

* The "Japan Gazette" of March 25th says that sulphuric acid is now being used.

copper is found, and also the class of ore in each separate case; but it must be remembered that most of the so-called mines are exceedingly small, and some of them indeed produce scarcely anything at present.

Provinces.	Class of Ore found.
Yechizen	Old and large mines, producing the best copper.
Setsu	Excellent copper, out of copper pyrites.
Scudai	Good copper, out of copper pyrites.
Ugo	Good copper, out of copper glance and copper pyrites; contains silver and gold.
Satsuma, Tamba, Bingo, Kü ..	Out of grey copper ore and pyrites; containing gold.
Iyo	Good copper, out of grey copper ore and copper pyrites.
Hiuga and Awa	Good copper, out of copper pyrites and grey copper ore; contain gold.
Tosa, Bishui, Mino, Yechin ..	Good copper, out of copper pyrites; grey copper ore.
Iwami, Yechigo, Omi	Old and large mines; contain gold and silver in considerable quantities.
Sado, Wakasa, Kai, Kaga ..	Good copper, out of copper pyrites; contain gold.
Tasima	Good copper; contain silver.
Chikuzen, Iwashiro, Rikushiu, Inaba, Hida, Idzumo, Isé Mimasaka, Suwo, Masashi, Kotsuké, Noto, Shimotsake, Aki, Bungo.	Out of fine copper pyrites; contain some gold.
Buzen, Higo	Out of copper pyrites.

Annual production.

I have already stated, on the authority of the Mining Department, that the total output of refined copper last year was only 3,000 tons, and yet, small as this quantity is, it took probably more than 200 different mines to produce it.

Ani mines.

The finest copper mines are considered to be those of Ani in the District of Akita.

The latest returns which I have been able to procure of their annual output are for the year 1872, when it was—

	Piculs.		Tons.
Fine copper	6,647	=	395
Lead	1,773		106
	Kwamme.		Lbs.
Silver	143		1,191

There is little doubt that this production might be greatly increased if a better system were pursued, and foreign machinery introduced. The mines are still worked entirely, it is said, on the old Japanese system, the ore being got at by about three hundred different adits, and the present proprietors show as yet no disposition to adopt any improvements.

A singular peculiarity of those Ani mines, is, that while the veins running east to west are rich in copper and poor in lead, exactly the reverse is the case in the veins which run north to south. These latter are rich in lead and poor in copper.

Rates of wages.

The following is a table of the rates of wages at present paid to the various classes of workmen employed in the Ani mines. It will give a fair idea of the wages usually paid to miners throughout the Empire. The sums mentioned include not only the money paid to each workman, but also the value of the food given to him (usually about 2 lbs. of rice per day, each). It will only be necessary to remember that this is the rate for a northern mine, and that wages are somewhat higher in the south than in the north. A considerable difficulty in the way of getting a perfectly correct idea on this subject arises from the fact that in most mines much of the work is sublet to under-contractors, and there are no means of knowing what wages these men pay to their coolies.

TABLE of Wages paid at Ani Mines per day.

MEN.

	Japanese cash.	Approximate English equivalent.
		d.
Head coolies	1,138	$5\frac{1}{2}$
Miners	996	$4\frac{3}{4}$
Trammers	741	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Surface wood carriers .	904	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Washing	1,153	$5\frac{3}{4}$
Calcining	892	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Smelting	796	4
Powdering slag	680	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Surface carriers	1,088	$5\frac{1}{4}$

WOMEN.

	Japanese cash.	Approximate English equivalent.
		d.
Trammers	741	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Powdering ore	523	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Washing	837	$4\frac{1}{4}$
Calcining	741	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Powdering slag	680	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Surface carriers	1,088	$5\frac{1}{4}$

Copper mine in Yamato.

The following account of some copper mines in Yamato has been kindly communicated to me by Mr. Gowland :—

"The only copper mine that I know in the neighbourhood of Osaka, which is being worked vigorously, is situated just within the margin of the mountains in Yamato, about two days' journey distant.

Japanese method most productive.

"It may be taken as a specimen of a Japanese mine of the best class, being worked by native methods, producing from 15 to 20 tons of crude metallic copper per month, and giving large profits. Some account of this mine, I think, will be worth considering, as from various circumstances it is doubtful whether European processes would successfully and profitably replace the native methods at present followed. Of course a larger outturn would at once result from the erection of European furnaces and appliances; but a larger investment of capital would be required, and the proportionate profits would probably be less.

Position of mine.

"The mine is situated in a narrow valley, in the midst of mountains, and at present two passes of nearly 3,000 feet are crossed to gain access to it.

"So narrow is the valley, and so steep the inclination of its sides, that there is no level ground, or ground which could be made so, within nearly half a mile of the mine entrance, upon which European furnaces could be built. All the present dressing-houses, furnaces, &c., are perched upon the slopes supported by built up foundations.

The vein.

"The vein consists of calcspar, quartz, magnetic pyrites, iron pyrites, and copper pyrites, the pyritous part varying in width from 18 inches to 3 feet or more, occasionally being split into two veins and often ending

abruptly. The vein has but a comparatively slight dip, and is worked by several levels, one lower level being made use of as an adit. No systematic mode or plan of laying out the workings exists, but in whatever direction the orey parts lay, that direction is followed, and those parts only taken out. For a time such a system may pay, but in the end can only result in the ruin of the mine, by rendering the removal of the distant ore difficult or impossible. No attention whatever is paid to the character of the levels with a view to easy 'haulage' or removal of the ore to the surface, a matter of great importance in the management of a mine.

"The levels are driven and the ore removed with the use of gunpowder, the broken down ore being carried to the surface on the backs of men and women.

"The ore on arriving at the surface is broken up with hammers, by hand, the harder and larger pieces being subjected to a preliminary calcination in a large pit about 8 feet deep and 12 feet diameter, with wood for fuel. The object of this calcination is to facilitate the subsequent breaking up of the lumps. Preliminary calcination.

"After remaining in the pit for about five days it is raked out through a hole in the side, and is then seen to be full of cracks and is easily broken. This breaking up by hand labour requires the employment of a large number of men and women, and appears to be a slow and costly operation.

"The ore having been broken up into pieces about the size of walnuts, is placed, with a sufficiency of wood, in kilns 5 feet square, with walls rudely built of stone and lined with clay. The calcination lasts fifteen days, but is of a very unsatisfactory character, much of the ore undergoing but slight change in the process. Calcination.

"The furnace consists of a hemispherical cavity in the ground (1 foot 9 inches in diameter, by 14 inches deep) lined with refractory clay, furnished with two bellows at the back and one in front, also with a thick semicircular lid of clay half covering it. Melting.

"The charge weighs about 9 piculs (1,224 lbs. avoirdupois) and is introduced in three parts. The fuel is charcoal.

"The furnace having been repaired and well dried after the 'heat' of the previous day, is lighted by introducing some burning embers, together with fresh char-

coal, and over this charcoal a third part of the charge of ore is piled, forming a heap; the blast from the bellows behind is started, and soon jets of flame of carbonic oxide make their appearance over the whole surface of the heap, which, gradually melting, subsides into the furnace; the slag is then removed, and another portion of charcoal and of ore piled up as before. When the whole of the charge of 9 piculs has been melted down in this way, the slag is skimmed off, after which the front bellows is brought into action, the blast of air being directed upon the surface of the molten regulus and copper, and a little charcoal added at the side from time to time to keep up the heat. This part of the process is analogous to the 'roasting' of the Welsh method of smelting, and is intended to remove sulphur as sulphurous acid, and not to reduce the regulus to metallic copper. In ten hours the charge is worked off, and the copper lifted out in more or less circular cakes by throwing water on its surface and raising the solidified crust with an iron tool.

"The slags produced by the melting down are usually very free from copper, in many cases as much so as European similar slags; they are thrown away. The slag, however, produced during the latter part of the process, when the front bellows is used, is very rich in copper; it is carefully collected and is smelted with the next day's charge.

Reasons why advantageous.

"This process has many advantages for a country like Japan, where the means of intercommunication are so bad, and coal being thus unavailable for fuel. Everything required can be made at the mine, and sufficiently refractory clay is found almost everywhere.

"By the native processes above described, copper can be produced in Japan with the investment of less capital and at less cost than probably at any other country in the world."

Analysis of Japanese copper.

Having thus laid before you an account of the manner in which copper is procured and prepared in this country, I will next submit an extract from the Report of the Master of the Mint at Osaka for last year, giving the result of various examinations of Japanese copper made by Mr. Gowland:—

"Sulphur, silver, lead, and iron were present in small and varying proportions in every case; in one

specimen, however, as will be seen from an accompany-analysis, an extraordinary and abnormal quantity of lead existed.

"The whole of the samples were remarkably free from the specially injurious metals antimony and arsenic, antimony being present in only one specimen, and then only in faint traces, whilst the maximum amount of arsenic only reached ·057 per cent.; and in thirty-one cases (out of thirty-eight tried) it was either absent altogether, or the merest traces only were found.

"The following analysis of a crude copper from Washiu may be taken as fairly representing the average composition of good qualities of Japanese crude copper:—

"Copper	98·940
Lead	Trace.
Sulphur	·947
Iron	·101
Silver	Trace.
Arsenic	Trace.
Antimony	Absent.
	99·988

"Its composition is thus analogous to that of the purest kinds of unrefined copper of commerce.

"Whilst, as a rule, Japanese copper is exceedingly free from the presence of injurious metals, yet occasionally a sample of low value is met with.

"The following analysis of so-called copper from Hishiu is interesting:—

"Copper	58·872
Lead	39·283
Silver	·185
Iron	·083
Sulphur	1·635
Arsenic	Faint trace.
Antimony	Absent.
	100 058"

Japanese copper good for telegraph purposes.

I must call attention specially to a remark in this Report of Mr. Gowland's, viz., that "Japanese copper, when properly selected and refined, should be of high value for electro-telegraphic purposes, where freedom from arsenic and antimony is especially required, these

metals, when present, reducing the electro-conductivity to a serious extent."

This is an important fact in the present day, when submarine telegraphy is being pushed to so large an extent, and when the purity of the copper is of such paramount importance.

The question, therefore, of the purity of Japanese copper is of so great interest that I need not apologize for giving another extract on this subject.

Japanese copper varies much in character.

Mr. Gowland, while explaining the reasons why Japanese copper wire or copper in other forms is so variable in its physical character, says:—

"The Japanese are unable to produce uniformly by their refining process a pure copper in the technical sense of the term. They can produce a copper as free from foreign metals as we can by our methods of refining and thus far as pure; but they cannot produce a copper which shall uniformly contain just that proportion of cuprous oxide which is absolutely necessary to give maximum toughness, tenacity, ductility, and electro-conductivity, and without which uniform proportion the purest commercial copper is worthless for most purposes. A deficient quantity of cuprous oxide or an excess would equally condemn an otherwise pure commercial copper. The variations in the physical characters of Japanese refined copper, especially in the form of wire, are usually due to excess of cuprous oxide, and not to the presence of foreign metals; the defects, however, produced by the excess of this oxide cannot be remedied by any treatment excepting that of remelting under proper conditions."

Exportation of copper.

Considering the high character given to Japanese copper, it might be expected that a large proportion of it would be exported to foreign countries. Such, indeed, is the case, as will be seen from the accompanying Table which I have compiled from the various Trade Returns of Her Majesty's Consuls.

It must be remembered that the Mining Department value the total output of copper for 1874 at only 900,000 yen (183,750*l.*); and these returns would appear incredible if we did not know that old broken copper from temples, &c., is included in them. In any case, the proportion of exportation with production seems extraordinarily large.

VALUE of Copper, &c., exported from Japan from 1871 to 1873, according to the Returns of Her Majesty's Consuls.

Year.	Kanagawa.	Hiogo and Osaka.	Nagasaki.	Total in Mexican Dollars.	Total.
	$	$	$	$	£ s. d.
1870	25,250	117,280	1,463	143,993	29,998 10 10
1871	107,471	288,504	20,655	416,630	86,797 18 4
1872	443,378	896,992	12,740	1,353,110	281,897 18 4
1873	206,945	490,025	68,845	765,815	159,545 2 6

N.B.—The Returns for 1874 are not yet complete; but as far as they are made they show a falling off on the exportation of 1873.

Up to the year 1872 the trade in copper was a Government monopoly. There was a provision in the Tariff Convention of June 25, 1866, which was repeated also in the Treaty with Russia of 1867, that copper of Japanese production could only be sold by the Government and by public auction. This, however, was abolished in 1872, and the great increase in the exportation of that year was owing principally to the reserves of past years being thus suddenly thrown on the market.

In former times the Dutch factory at Desima used to export annually about 180 tons of copper, which came principally from Osaka.

Osaka chief depôt of copper trade.

Osaka has long been, and is still the chief depôt for Japanese copper. Although the best mines are in the northern portion of the main island, the produce is taken usually to Osaka in junks and there sold. It is difficult to understand why this should now be the case, for much time is thus wasted; but the origin of Osaka as the centre of the copper trade arose from the fact of its having been the first place to establish a good refinery.

Foreign markets.

The principal foreign market for Japanese copper at present is Calcutta. It is supposed to be used there chiefly for household utensils, but I cannot obtain any very satisfactory information on this point.

Present price of copper at Yokohama.

The present price of Japanese copper at Yokohama is about 19 dollars (3*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*) per picul. Including freight, insurance, and commission, this would come to about 80*l.* per ton delivered in London.

Cost of production.

The following is an estimate of the average cost of producing a ton of Japanese copper according to the

present native methods, viz., 190 yen (38*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*) per ton, of which—

	Per cent.
Cost of ore	23
Explorations	3
Subsequent treatment of ores, viz.—	
Labour	46
Materials	18
Superintendence	10
	100

This of course does not include freight to a seaport or other market.

Gold and silver mines.

3. *Silver and Gold Mines.*

Japan possesses both gold and silver, although not in large quantities.

As has been already stated, the total production for 1874 was calculated at the Mining Department to be 2,600 kwamme (21,666 lbs.); of silver 100 kwamme (833 lbs.); of gold a small amount, if it be considered that the official list gives the number of mines producing silver at 346, and those producing gold at 89.

The Government possesses silver mines in the Island of Sado off Niigata, at Ikuno in Tajima, and at Kosaka in Rikushiu, all under the direction of foreign engineers. It also works a gold mine at Oogaza in Ugo, under foreign superintendence.

Sado mines.

The Sado mines at least would not appear to be a very profitable investment, for I learn from a gentleman who has lately returned from a visit to that island, that although in one year 60,000 yen (12,250*l.*) worth of ore was extracted from the mine, 75,000 yen (15,312*l.*) had to be sent from Yedo in order to meet the working expenses.

Indeed, although much is said about the richness of the gold and silver ores of Japan, I do not believe they are at present of much value; and, as this Report is already growing too long, I will not dilate farther on this part of the subject.

Cost of production.

The cost of production, in the native manner of working, is estimated—

For gold .. 2 yen (8*s.* 2*d.*) per me (58⅓ grains).
silver .. 96 yen (19*l.* 12*s.*) per kwamme (8⅓ lbs).

4. *Iron Mines.*

Iron.

Proceeding as I have so far done according to the value of last year's production, the next metal to be considered is iron.

The total production was 5,000 tons, and therefore, if we were to take quantity and not value for our standard of comparison, it would come second on the list. Next to coal iron is the most commonly found of all minerals in Japan.

Distribution of iron ores.

Iron ore is found in many parts of the country, but the richest mines are in the mountains which run north to Awomori. Besides what exists in the extreme north, the iron ores usually found in Japan are, according to Dr. Geerts,—

"1. Magnetic iron ore, found in large quantities in Karima, Hoki, Satsuma, Idzumo, Wakasa, Iwami, Hiuga, &c. This is the principal ore of the Japanese mining industry.

"2. Specular iron ore, found in Hiuga and other places.

"3. Brown hematite, found in Idzumo, Mutsu, Hiuga, Satsuma, Shinano, Bizen, &c.

"4. Clay iron ore, very common.

"5. Stalactitic iron ore, rare.

"6. Iron pyrites, very common."

Of the above ores the first, both in form of sand and lump, is the most commonly used in Japanese metallurgy.

Mode of smelting iron.

The accompanying account of the mode adopted by the natives for smelting the iron ore is also borrowed from Dr. Geerts:—

"After the ore has been selected, it is piled up in heaps with coal and calcined (roasted) in order to expel the water, carbonic acid, sulphur, &c. This calcination makes the ore more porous, and better fitted for the smelting process. This process is done near the places where the ore has been found.

"The calcined ore is smelted in a cylindrical furnace built up with a few hard stones and fireproof clay. The clay is laid in layers till the wall of the furnace has sufficient thickness. The thick bottom of this small furnace has a rounded shape, and a little above the

bottom two exactly opposite openings in the wall are made for receiving the tubes of the bellows. Besides there is a third opening near the bottom, which is closed with a clay stopper, and afterwards is opened to collect the fluid metal in the forms. Now the furnace, previously perfectly dried, is filled with a mixture of coarse powdered calcined ore, charcoal, and some feldspar, clay, or another quartz containing stone. These latter substances are added to act as a flax, and to separate the metallic iron from the impurities which are taken by the slag. Sometimes, but not generally, coal or coke is used as fuel. When the heat produced by the continuous strong stream of air, pressed into the furnace by means of large Chinese bellows worked by four to five workmen, has been sufficient to smelt the ore, the iron will gradually run in a liquid state to the bottom of the furnace, and is cast in sand forms by removing the clay stopper of the lowest opening. The cold metal is sometimes purified by a second smelting in another similar, but smaller furnace, and cast in the desired forms."

Iron being so generally distributed through the country, it is of importance to examine what is being done to develop the output.

Mine at Nakakosaka.

An interesting experiment is now being made at Nakakoska, in the Province of Hitachi, where there is a considerable bed of ironstone, varying from 18 feet to 8 feet in thickness. An English engineer is at present engaged putting up furnaces on the spot for the Japanese owners, and hopes very shortly to be in a position to commence working. The ore is said to be very rich, and merely to require quarrying, as it lies on the surface. This mine has the immense advantage of being situated only a few miles from a navigable river, by which there is direct water communication with Yedo. It is intended to run a road down from the mine to the river, and thus the produce ought to reach a good market at a trifling cost.

I regret being unable to give any more precise information respecting this mine, for the experiment is one of great interest to the future of iron mining in this country; but as yet the works are not completed, and till the experiment has been tested by practical experience, no arguments can be deduced from it.

Another experiment of the same kind is being tried by the Government, at Heigori, in Rikushiu, where there is an abundance of very rich magnetic iron ore. The present mine is situated about 13 English miles* from the port of Kameishi, on the north east coast of the main island, where the anchorage is excellent. It is proposed to run a small tramway, of 2 feet 9 inches wide, from the mine to the smelting works, which would be built on a spot about 2 miles from the sea, and therefore 11 miles from the mine. The line would thence continue on to Kameishi, whence steamers could be regularly dispatched to take down the iron to Yokohama, or elsewhere, for sale, and bring back coal from Nagasaki. Mines at Heigori.

It may seem odd that, with so many coal mines in the country, it should be necessary to send all the way to Nagasaki; but, as I have already explained, no Japanese coal, except those of Kiushiu, can be advantageously used for smelting. It may perhaps turn out that the coal found in the Island of Yesso (at Ishikari and Iwanai) will answer the purpose equally well, in which case, as the distance is so much shorter from Kameishi there than to Nagasaki, it will probably be preferred. There is, however, another circumstance to be taken into consideration, viz., that between Nagasaki and Kameishi the steamers would take cargoes both ways, iron for sale coming down, and coal and stores going up; whereas, if they fetch the coal from Yesso, they would always have to go up in ballast, while other ships would have to be employed to bring down the iron to the southern markets. In the present there is plenty of cheap wood to be had in the neighbourhood, which will, of course, be used as long as it lasts; so it will not be necessary to have resource to coal for a long time yet, and if the Government would only take the trouble of replanting the forests as they are cut down, a continuous supply of fuel might be kept up.

The cost of producing iron at these mines has hitherto been—

* I have just learnt that the iron ore has now been struck at half this distance from the sea.

Cost of production for iron.

	Yen	sen		s.	d.
2 tons of ore, at 1 yen 16 sen ..	2	32	=	9	5
2 tons of charcoal, 2 yen 43 sen ..	4	86		19	10
Labour	0	12		0	6
Superintendence	0	62		2	7
Freight to sea shore	1	08		4	3
Total	9	00		36	9

As yet the annual produce of these mines does not exceed 1,500 tons of pig iron, but Mr. Godfrey expects that when the tramway is finished, and the steamer service with the south is properly organised, he will be able to increase the production immensely. Time will tell how far these expectations will be realised, and in the meantime all those interested in Japanese mining will watch the experiment with deep interest.

Mines in Mutsu.

In the Province of Mutsu are also good copper and lead mines, which might be simultaneously worked; but Government appears as yet uninclined to undertake their exploration, as it would first have to make roads to get at them, and the possible return does not seem a sufficient inducement for facing the certain expense of making roads in such a mountainous country.

5. *Lead and Tin Mines.*

Lead.

Lead glance is said to exist in about twenty different provinces, but the annual production of this metal is extremely small (only 185 tons last year). On the other hand, considerable quantities of lead are imported from abroad. In 1873 no less than 84,693 dol. worth (17,644*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*) were so imported. It seems strange that more use should not be made of the mines known to exist producing this mineral.

Hosokura mine.

For instance, I am assured that there is a fine 4-foot vein in the Hosokura Mine, near Kawaguchi, which is at present barely worked, because the water has got in, and there is not sufficient machinery at hand to pump it out, and also at Hakoôsan, a mine which produces only 900 kwamme (a trifle under 3 tons) per annum of lead. The vein is excellent, but there is no ventilation, and the miners cannot work for want of air.

Galena appears to be the lead mineral most commonly made use of in this country, but there are other lead ores also to be found.

I am indebted again to Mr. Gowland for the following interesting description of a lead mine near Lake Biwa, and of the mode of smelting still practised there :— Mode of lead smelting.

"The mine is situated in Omi. It is worked by levels driven into the side of the hill, and the water is got rid of by an adit. The levels are driven entirely at random. There are native plans of the mine; but they give no accurate information either as to the direction or extent of the workings. In the harder parts the levels are carried forward with the aid of gunpowder. The vein, which is very wide, dips at a high angle, but is chiefly filled with a blue shaley material, the ore occurring in this usually in thin straggling veins and in 'pockets' very irregularly, associated occasionally with similar veins of calc spar. The country rock is a silicious shale much decomposed and broken up on the surface.

"The ore is galena, intermixed largely with iron ore, magnetic and arsenical pyrites containing also mispickel, and occasionally copper pyrites. The material they were melting at the time of my visit (1873) was of this character, very poor of lead, yielding in the furnace only from 4 to 5 per cent. of metal, from which, however, 8 per cent. of silver is obtained. Occasionally small quantities of a tolerably pure galena were met with. Since my visit they have struck a vein of this richer ore, about 10 inches in thickness, a sample of which I have assayed and found 69 per cent. of lead and 125 oz. 8 dwts. silver per ton of ore. Ore.

"Wood is used for fuel in the calcining kilns, and charcoal in the smelting furnaces. The charcoal is that of oak, maple, &c., for although the cryptomeria is the most abundant tree, charcoal made from it is disliked because it is soft and swift burning.

"The calcining kilns are square chambers of 4 feet by 4 feet, and 4 feet deep, open at the top. Their sides are of clay, and usually four or six or more are built side by side in a row. Calcining.

"At the bottom of the front side of each there is a hole which is opened or closed when necessary according to the rate of the combustion.

"The ore having been previously broken up into small pieces is placed in these in alternate layers with wood. This, the first, calcination lasts five days.

"The ore, now only partially calcined, is removed to an adjacent kiln in every respect the same as the above, and treated in it in the same way and for the same time. Even after this second operation the calcination is but imperfect, the fracture of the pieces often showing unaltered interior.

Smelting.

"The smelting furnace is situated under a rude chimney or hood of wicker-work plastered with clay, open on the front side to about the height of 6 feet from the ground, where it is fully 6 feet wide, whilst its back wall screens the men who work the bellows from the heat of the furnace. The bellows, of which there are two, are placed behind the back wall.

The furnace.

"The furnace itself is merely a hole in the ground lined with a refractory clay (an impure kaolin of which there is an inexhaustible quantity in Japan). It is hemispherical in shape, 18 inches in diameter, 12 to 14 inches deep, and almost identical with the furnace used in copper smelting, and, like it, is furnished with a semi-circular lid of clay 4 to 5 inches thick. Below the lid, at the back of the furnace, are two poles by which the blast is admitted, the blast being conveyed to these by clay tubes running just below the surface of the ground. The furnace is lined after each day's work, but the lid only renewed occasionally. A furnace identical with this is used at Osaka at silver refineries for smelting the saturated ash bottoms of their expelling furnaces.

Mode of charging the furnace.

"The daily charge is 600 lbs. calcined ore, divided into four equal parts; one part being charged into the furnace every hour and a-half, and the whole being worked off in six hours. The furnace having been lighted by introducing a small quantity of ignited charcoal, a quantity of charcoal a little less in volume than the 150 lbs. of ore is filled in, and heaped up above the open half. On the top of this the calcined ore is spread, covering it entirely and uniformly. The heap is then gently patted with a small flat iron tool, and the bellows started gently. Very soon blue jets of ignited carbonic oxide begin to make their appearance, and in a short time are seen to issue from over the whole surface of the pile, the workmen from time to time patting the heap to prevent the formation of hollow places, and keep the jets of flame as uniformly as possible in every part. The heap, gradually becoming less and less in

volume, subsides into the furnace cavity, and in about an hour and a-half is thoroughly melted down, consisting then chiefly of slag, with some regulus, a little metal and unconsumed charcoal.

"The unconsumed charcoal is then removed, the slag raked off with a wooden rake, but the regulus and metal are allowed to remain. The slag is usually black, well melted and very clean, it being difficult to discover any regulus in it.

"Another charge of charcoal is now filled in on top of the regulus and metal, another 150 lbs. of ore spread over it as above described, and the same treatment followed. This is repeated twice more, when the whole 600 lbs will have been treated.

"When the slag from the last melting has been removed, the clay lid of the furnace is taken off, and a little water thrown upon the regulus, which is lifted off in cakes with an iron tool. The metallic lead is then laded out with a shallow ladle, and poured into a small hollow in the floor near the side of the furnace. The regulus after calcination is mixed with a future charge of calcined ore.

"I had no opportunity of assaying the poor ore treated; but the loss of lead must have been very great.

"The entire charge of 600 lbs. of calcined ore only yielded 25 to 30 lbs. of lead, containing 8 per cent. of silver.

"During the whole process volumes of dense lead 'fume' were given off, and this contained so much arsenic that I am surprised no cases of poisoning had occurred.

"When richer ore is treated, scrap iron is mixed with it, and then the lead and regulus are removed every second 'heat,' that is after 300 lbs. of ore had been melted. The rich ore containing 69 per cent. of lead by assay only yielded 40 per cent. of metal by the above treatment.

"The Japanese method of lead smelting is extremely faulty, and ought to be replaced, as it easily could be, by a more efficient process."

Tin. The total production of tin last year having been only $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons, it will not be necessary to tarry very long on this subject.

The only tin mines I can hear of are situated in

Bango and Satsuma, in the Island of Kiushiu, and in Suwo on the main island, but nothing much seems to be known about them. On the other hand, the importation of tin plates into Japan is considerable, and, as it is a trade which has sprung up quite lately, it is possible the Japanese may be induced to consider whether it would not be more politic to work their own deposits of tin instead of importing that metal from abroad.

Sulphur.

Sulphur is found in Ugo, Echigo, Shinano, Hizen, Matsu, and Osumi. I cannot, however, obtain any estimate of the amount produced, although it is supposed to be considerable. A large quantity of sulphur is annually exported from Awomori to other parts of the Empire.

Quicksilver.

Quicksilver is found in Hizen and in Rikushiu; but I believe that none of the mines are in work at present. The mine in Rikushiu is said to be a very promising one, but the present proprietors seem disinclined to invest any money in it. The quicksilver used in this country comes principally from China. From England 150 lbs. only were imported in 1873.

Importation of metals from England into Japan.

In connection with the production of metals in Japan, it may not be uninteresting to consider the amount of metals annually imported into the empire. I therefore beg to submit the following Table of the export of metals from London and Liverpool alone to Japan in the years 1872, 1873, and 1874. It is copied from Messrs. James and Shakespeare's Prices Current of January 8, 1875.

TABLE of Export of Metals from London and Liverpool to Japan.

Year.	Iron.						Steel.		Copper.		Yellow Meal.				Lead.			
	Bar and Bolt.	Sheet.	Hoop.	Rod.	Pig.	Swede.	British.	Foreign.	Sheet and Sheathing.	Rod.	Sheet, Sheathing, and Rod.	Nails.	Spelter.	Zinc.	Pig.	Sheet.	Tin plates.	Quicksilver.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Boxes.	Lbs.
1872 ..	812	256	226	2,555	120	..	16	37	..	..	43	6	63	20	132	825	2	..
1873 ..	2,131	724	561	3,086	1,196	..	16	109	5	..	17	3	5	3	42	598	2,070	150
1874 ..	2,528	700	105	2,903	1,410	6	67	49	4	2	37	4	13	158	186	507	2,520	..

This Table shows a considerable increase for 1873 and 1874 over 1872 for almost every class of metal, but it is more than probable that is due mainly to the importations of plant, &c., for the new railways, and not to any very much increased demand for metals generally throughout the country.

6. *General Remarks.*

Mining Laws of Japan.

No regular code of mining laws can really be said to exist applicable to the whole of Japan, although one was prepared and published about two years ago. Since then various local and general ordinances have appeared, and I am assured that on these, and what remains of the law, mining operations in this country are regulated.

Exclusion of foreigners.

There is one point, however, on which these Ordinances leave no doubt, viz., the jealous care with which foreigners have been excluded from all participation in the mining industry of this country.

Foreigners are prohibited both from holding shares in a mine, and from lending money on the security of a mine. Any Japanese mine-owner taking a foreigner into partnership, or giving him a mortgage on his mine, or on the ores raised therefrom, or on the machinery, &c., is liable to have the whole confiscated by the Government.

Foreigners may serve as engineers, &c.

Foreigners may indeed be employed by Japanese as engineers, &c., to direct the works; but, before signing a contract, the foreigner must write a letter to the Chief Commissioner of the Mining Department in Yedo, stating that he has no share or pecuniary interest whatever in the mine or its produce, and, moreover, that he fully recognizes that, in case of non-payment of his salary, he cannot in any way attach the mine, or any part of the produce or plant, as security for money due to him. If the foreigner does not make such declaration, the contract is illegal, and the Japanese who employs him under the circumstances is liable to punishment.

Mines belong by law to the Government.

The right to work mines does not belong to the owner of the soil; for in Japan possession of the surface does not carry with it the right to the mineral wealth

below. That belongs by law to the Government, and no ores can ever be extracted without the special permission of the Mining Department. For this permission rent must be paid to the Government, who in return grant leases, usually for fifteen years. These, however, can be renewed, and there is no fee on the sale or the renewal of the lease. No mine can ever be sold without the written consent of the Minister of Public Works, who before giving such consent satisfies himself as to the capacity of the new tenant, and under no circumstances can a Japanese mine be transferred to a foreigner.

As a proof of the extent to which the right of the Government to minerals overrides that of the proprietor of the soil, it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that, according to Japanese law of a person who discovers, or suspects the existence of, ores under lands belonging to another person, denounces the fact to Government, he acquires, *ipso facto*, the right to work those ores on lease from the Government, if the surface owner does not choose to do so. His title to this is so complete that, with the consent of the Government, he can dispose of it to whom he chooses (excepting, of course, to a foreigner) in the same manner as any other property.

Royalty.

No general rule can be laid down as to the amount of royalty claimed by the Government; it varies according to the peculiar circumstances of each mine; but there is in addition a fixed universal charge for surface-rent of 1 yen (4*s.* 1*d*). per 500 square "ken" (2,000 square yards) for all mines except those for iron and coal. On these latter only half that rate is charged, viz., 50 sen (2*s.* ½*d.*) per 500 square "ken." This sum is in addition to the ordinary land tax which would be payable for the lot.

Owners of mines to send in semi-annual Reports.

The owners of mines are obliged to send in half-yearly Reports to the Mining Department of the produce of their mines, number of men employed, &c., &c.; but non-compliance with this rule appears to be very general, and I cannot hear of any punishment ever having been awarded for it. An Ordinance has indeed been lately published calling attention to this neglect, and letting mine-owners off the penalties to which they had rendered themselves liable for past negligence in this

respect. They are at the same time warned that henceforward the law must be complied with.

Royalty at present suspended.

An important notification was also published in January last, by which the Government, in order, as is said, to foster and encourage the mining industry of the country, foregoes all payment of royalties, &c., until further notice.

Observations on Law of 1873.

The Law of 1873, which is, to a great extent, founded on the mining laws of Prussia and of Spain, would require for its proper application a far larger number of trained officials than the Japanese Department can as yet dispose of. At present the Department has only twenty-three Europeans in its employment, besides a small number of natives who have commenced studying the modern systems of mining engineering; and yet, with this small scientific staff, it is expected to exercise the most minute supervision over every little detail throughout the three southern islands. This being manifestly impossible, until the staff is very much increased, it would seem a pity to carry centralization to such a point, and it would be wiser to allow greater latitude to individual explorers to carry on their workings as they best can.

Law *in extenso* given in Appendix.

Translations, by Mr. Aston, of the Law of 1873, and of the principal Ordinances which have been subsequently published in Yedo, are given in an Appendix to this Report.

A translation by Mr. McClatchie, of an Ordinance respecting the working of mines in the Island of Yesso is also annexed. It has only lately appeared, and would tend to prove that whatever dissatisfaction the present law may be regarded with, it is not likely soon to be altered, as the Government think it worth giving to the Colonization Department the same powers which, in the rest of Japan, are exercised by the Imperial Mining Department at Yedo.

Conclusion.

I have now placed before you the chief points which I have been able to gather respecting the mines of Japan; but the question is so vast, and the information even at the disposal of the Mining Department is so incomplete, that I must beg your indulgence for the unsatisfactory nature of this Report.

No survey exists.

No geological survey has yet been made, nor do the

Government even possess a correct map of the empire. With the help of Mr. McClatchie, of Her Majesty's Legation, I have endeavoured, by comparison of the best Japanese map with the outline of the English Admiralty charts, to produce a map giving a faint idea of the provinces in which the various minerals are found, and I now annex it to this Report. It is certainly very incomplete, but it is the first thing of the kind yet attempted, and must be looked upon only as a sketch. The mines are not always the best or largest, but are those the position of which could be fixed with tolerable accuracy.

Prospects.

In conclusion, I have the honour to state that after careful inquiry, I am led to believe that, although metalliferous ores are found in so many parts of the country, it is extremely doubtful whether there are many of such position, per-centage, and character as would justify the investment of much capital in mining enterprise at present. There are probably some good mines, but I fear they are the exception rather than the rule, and on the whole I believe the mineral wealth of Japan to have been hitherto estimated by the public far beyond its real value. When the country is finally thrown open to foreigners and they are allowed to invest money in mines, there will certainly not be wanting persons ready to venture upon such speculations. Some may, perhaps, be fortunate and strike good veins, but I fear the greater majority will find bitter disappointment, unless they carefully weigh beforehand all the difficulties to be encountered. It is indeed pretty certain that it will be the Japanese, and not the foreigners, who will profit most by the admission of the latter to mining speculations in Japan.

Foreign capital should be admitted.

This, however, is no reason why foreigners should be prohibited by law from taking part in mining operations, or even from lending money to Japanese mine owners. Without foreign capital and foreign science, the mines will never be properly worked, and yet it is decidedly to the interest of all parties, in view of the poverty of Japan in exchangeable commodities, that, whatever this source of riches may really be worth, it should at all events be made the most of and developed with the least possible delay.

The object of Japan should be to gain a character for her mineral productions before China enters into

competition with her. At present the opportunity still exists, but it is difficult to tell whether it may not soon be lost for ever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. W. PLUNKETT.

Appendix.

Mining Law of July 1873.

Chapter I.—*Minerals.*

Strictly speaking, all inorganic matter (things without living organisms) belongs to the class of minerals. Inorganic matter may be divided into two kinds, 1st, those which contain metallic ores; 2nd, those which do not. To the first class belong those minerals from which the various metals are produced, either in their natural state or in combination with other substances. To the second class belong combustible minerals, rock salt, coal, ornamental stones and precious stones. (Note.—The term "minerals" applies to both of these classes described in the text. The terms "mine," "mining," "mineral," "produce," &c., are to be similarly interpreted.)

2. All things of the class above described which are discovered in Japan, are the property of the Japanese Government, who have alone the right to dig them.

3. Building stone, sand, clay and other things used in building or cultivation, are the property of the owner of the soil.

4. No one, except a person duly registered as a Japanese subject, can become either principal or partner in making trial borings, renting a mining allotment, or in the business of raising and preparing minerals. (Note.—All persons who receive a share of the produce, or who possess an interest in the profits and losses are accounted partners.) Any person who breaks this rule forfeits to the Government all his interest in the undertaking, and his further proceeding with it will be prohibited.

Chapter II.—*Trial Borings.*

5. Those persons who wish to make trial borings must apply to the Mining Department for permission to do so. (If the land required for this purpose is the

property of another person, the applicant must make a private arrangement with him to indemnify him for it.) If the owner of a piece of ground wishes to make trial borings, his claim to receive permission is prior to that of any one else; but, if he does not possess the requisite capital himself, and prevents others from undertaking the matter, or if he demands an exorbitant indemnification, the Mining Department, or the local authorities, may purchase the land from him, a proper sum being fixed by way of indemnification.

6. If on making trial borings, minerals are discovered, a report, with specimens, is to be at once forwarded to the Mining Department. Whilst the trial workings are going on, a report is to be made every January and July, showing what has been done in the previous six months, the number of days' work, the number of workmen employed and the weight of the minerals obtained.

It is not permitted to sell any mineral produce until after mining allotment deeds have been taken out (see Section 10). In case this rule is broken, the value of the produce is forfeited.

7. Permission to make trial borings is valid for one year only. This term may, however, be extended, if it can be clearly shown that there are reasons which make it really impossible to decide sooner whether a mine should be opened or not.

8. If a person who makes trial borings, abandons the undertaking, he will follow the same rule as is laid down in Section 27, with regard to the abandonment of the working of a mine.

In this case, the Mining Department will grant him permission to sell the mineral produce. Duty will be payable upon it according to Section 31.

The payment of duty will, however, be dispensed with in case it should clearly appear that the undertaking was abandoned by reason of losses sustained by the person making the trial borings.

Chapter III.—*Opening a Mine in a Mining Allotment.*

9. The person who opens a mine must first take out a mining allotment.

The size of the allotment granted will depend on the scale upon which it is intended to carry on the work.

Any person who opens a mine for raising any

mineral must also combine with this the business of preparing such minerals.

Any person wishing to take out a mining allotment and open a mine, must apply to the Mining Department. His application must be accompanied by a plan of the allotment desired.

Any person who applies for an allotment, having previously made trial borings, is not liable to be prevented by the owner, if there be one, of the ground allotted. The same step should be taken as directed in Section 20, an allotment deed having previously been taken out.

10. The allotment applied for will be surveyed by the officers of the Mining Department, who will mark off its boundaries by setting up boundary stones.

Permission will be granted, after the report of the inspecting officers, and a deed given with the seal of authorization of the Board of Works.

11. Allotments will ordinarily be granted for a period of fifteen years. At the end of this time fresh application should be made for an extension of the time.

Chapter IV.—*Main Galleries.*

[NOTE.—The ordinary mode of mining is to cut small workings lengthwise and breadthwise. A separate larger cutting driven horizontally under the ground for the sake of the removal of minerals or the discharge of water, is termed a main gallery.]

Main galleries will be allowed to be driven through ground even not belonging to the allotment of the person doing so. On applying for permission to make a main gallery, a carefully drawn up plan of the proposed gallery should be forwarded to the Mining Department. If it trenches upon another man's allotment, he must first give notice to the person holding such allotment.

A main gallery must be at least nine feet in height and six feet wide. Cuttings of less dimensions will not be reckoned as main galleries.

13. When an application is made to open a main gallery, officers of the Mining Department will make an inspection, and send in a report upon which permission will be granted under the seal of authorization of the Board of Works. If after such license has been received, it is desired to change the plan or direction of the gallery, or to increase or diminish its dimensions, a fresh applica-

tion must be made to the Mining Department, and a new license obtained.

14. If the renter of an allotment has not himself the capital for opening a main gallery, he must not obstruct similar undertakings by others, even within the limits of his own allotment.

In order to preserve main galleries from injury, it is forbidden to make cuttings within a distance of nine feet from them in every direction. This rule does not apply to persons who afterwards place supports at their own expense to prevent all danger of the roof falling in. (Note.—This refers to the removal of earth and stones for the purpose of obtaining minerals.)

15. If the main gallery is a convenience for the holders of several allotments, they must pay a fee for it to the maker of the gallery. If an amicable arrangement cannot be come to with regard to this fee, the Mining Department will decide.

The person who opens a main gallery will be allowed to appropriate all the minerals removed from places not yet allotted; but in the parts belonging to the allotments of others, he must deliver one half to the holder of the allotment.

Chapter V.—*Working a Mine.*

16. In working a mine, it is proper to remove the minerals to the greatest possible advantage, except where it is necessary to leave supporting pillars. If this rule is disregarded, or if the advantageous working of the mine is interfered with in any other way, a fine will be imposed proportionate to the circumstances.

17. In experimental or other workings, or in opening a gallery, care must be taken to avoid injury to buildings, railways, water-courses, roads, or other things liable to be damaged, and in the case of a castle wall a space of 140 yards should be left. If injury of this kind is done without the consent of the owner, the offender will be punished according to law in the case of the castle wall; and, in the other cases, he will be obliged to pay double the amount of the damage by way of compensation, the actual amount of the damage to be paid over to the owner of the property injured.

18. If, after permission has once been granted, another description of mineral is discovered, the matter must be at once reported to the Mining Department.

If this rule is broken, the minerals, or their value, will be forfeited.

In such cases the rental of the allotment will be payable on the scale for the more valuable mineral of the two (see Section 31).

19. The owner of a mine must report to the Mining Department in January and June every year the amount of minerals raised during the preceding six months, the amount sold, the price realized, the number of days on which the mine was worked, and the number of workmen.

In the case of metallic ores, such report must contain, in addition to the above particulars, the weight (of ore) raised, the weight prepared, and, in case it contains more than two kinds of metals combined, a quantitative analysis. A fine of 50 yen (about 10*l.*) will be imposed for incorrect returns of weights, or for delayed returns.

Any person who returns the amount sold, or its price, at less than the truth, will forfeit three times the amount of the difference so caused.

20. For every 500 tsubos (2,000 square yards of ground, there must be at least one able-bodied man at work for 300 days in the year, either in opening the mine, or in raising and preparing the minerals. If this rule is broken, and it is not clearly shown that it was owing to circumstances beyond the control of the miner, the work is to be put a stop to.

21. The holders of contiguous lots are to make mutual arrangements at their convenience for ventilation. In case it is desired to make a channel for the discharge of water to the surface of the ground from the allotment of A through that of B, an exorbitant compensation must not be demanded. If an amicable arrangement cannot be come to, the Mining Department will decide.

The minerals obtained in making such a channel are the property of the holder of the allotment where they are found.

22. If the holder of an allotment wishes to construct upon the surface above it godowns, watch-houses, work-shops, sheds for washing minerals, smelting furnaces, or other works necessary for the mine, he must previously arrange to compensate the owner of the soil. If they disagree, and cannot come to terms, the Mining Department, or the local authorities, will decide the proper amount of compensation, and enable the land to be bought.

23. Compensation must be given in all cases of injury done by one allotment to another. If there is a dispute as to the amount, the Mining Department will decide.

24. If the holder of an allotment wishes to transfer his lot to another person before the expiration of his term of holding, both parties must first apply to the Mining Department for permission.

If this rule is broken the workings will be stopped.

25. All allotments which the holder has ceased to work, either because his term of holding is expired, or because he has been prevented working for a breach of the law, or if he has simply done so of his own accord, revert to the Government, which, however, will not be responsible for any liabilities incurred connected with working the mine.

In each case the plant underground goes with the mine, and becomes the property of the Government.

The holder will be allowed to remove any constructions above ground, but he must leave the ground in the same state as he found it.

26. Persons engaged in mining will be reckoned as belonging to the population of the district in which the mine is situated, and are bound to obey the orders of the local officials.

Chapter VI.—*Ceasing to work a Mine.*

27. Any person who wishes to give up working a mine must close up its entrance securely, or make a fence round it. The Mining Department will ascertain whether the entrance has been securely enough closed or not, and whether the interior is in a proper state of repair.

If the examination is unsatisfactory, the Mining Department will make good the deficiency, and twice the expense will be forfeited by the holder.

28. If the Mining Department directs that means be taken to remove the water from a mine, and, if by neglect to obey this order, the mine becomes unworkable, the holder will not be allowed to continue working it.

Chapter VII.—*Erection of Works for preparing Metals.*

29. If the person who opens a working finds it necessary to erect works for the purpose of reducing metallic

ores, he must obtain permission from the Mining Department before doing so.

30. Persons who engage in the business of refining metals already prepared in the raw state, must make a report to the Mining Department, and must afterwards report monthly to the same Department the original weight of ore, as well as the weight in the refined state.

In this section are meant such processes as the refining of gold, and the preparation of raw copper into fine copper, or bar copper.

Chapter VIII.—*Taxes.*

31. The holders of all allotments from which metallic ores, other than iron, are raised, shall pay to the Mining Department a yearly tax of 1 yen (4*s.* 1*d.*) per 2,000 square yards.

(This tax is irrespective of the land tax.)

Half the afore-mentioned tax, or 50 yen per 2,000 square yards, is payable on allotments from which iron or non-metallic ores are raised.

The ordinary tax is to be paid for 4,000 square yards for working an abandoned mine.

The tax is to be paid in this proportion as regards superficial extent, even when the extent is less than 2,000 square yards, in the case of a mine in full working, or than 4,000 square yards in the case of an abandoned mine.

The tax upon allotments is to be paid for the first year, according to the number of months.

In addition to the tax on allotments, an *ad valorem* tax, varying from 3 to 20 per cent., will be payable as a mineral tax to the Mining Department twice a year, viz., in January and July, upon all prepared metals and other minerals.

The amount of this tax will be fixed by the Mining Department, in proportion as the mining industry is flourishing or the reverse.

32. In case of non-payment of the taxes, fines, or compensation laid down in these Regulations in respect to trial borings, allotments, and galleries, the Mining Department will dispose of all the movable property of the mine by public tender, and deduct from the amount realised the sum which has not been paid. The balance will then be handed over to the defaulter.

33. Fines will be imposed for all offences against the tenor of the Mining Law in proportion to their gravity.

If deaths are caused by carelessness in working the mine, this will be dealt with according to the Criminal Law.

The Law embodied in these Regulations will come into operation on the 1st of September, 1873.

Anything in hitherto existing regulations, or in old customs, which is in contradiction to this law, is hereby abrogated.

Addition to Mining Law.

If any person who is establishing a mining and metal preparing business, wishes to engage a foreign mining engineer at a fixed salary, for the purpose of using foreign methods and appliances, he must apply, upon engaging him, to the Mining Department, for permission to make a contract for that purpose; and must furnish a draft stating clearly the term of the engagement, the salary, and the kind of work to be performed; and must take care not to infringe the prohibition in Section 4, against foreigners having any interest in the gains and losses of a Japanese mine.

Notification of July 1873.

When foreigners are engaged to assist in working mines, copies of the contract in English and Japanese, must be sent to the Foreign Office, and to the Board of Works, through the "Kencho,"* and their approval obtained. This sanction must be obtained before the contract can be sealed by the parties. Moreover, before making application, the foreigner must be warned that he is expected to make a declaration at the time the contract is signed, that he has no interest in the minerals, or in the real property, or movable property of the mine; and that he is only employed professionally to assist in its working.

Dajokwan Notification, January 10, 1874.

Minerals being the property of the Imperial Government, it is not allowable, even after permission has been

* The office of the Prefecture.

obtained to open a mine, to hypothecate to a foreigner its future outturn as security for money borrowed, or to contract to sell it to him at a future date.

Notification of the Board of Works, February 7, 1874.

Petitions for the opening of mines are to be addressed to the Mining Department; but the taxes on mining produce are to be collected by the local authorities, and forwarded to the Mining Department.

Notification of the Board of Works, March 29, 1874.

Lays down the formalities to be gone through on transferring a mine from one person to another. Both parties must petition the Board of Works, but no new title-deed is required.

Notification of the Board of Works, December 14, 1874.

Prescribes the new Form of Deed for allotments, and for permission to make trial borings. Both of these contain the provision that the Deed becomes null and void, in case it falls into the hands of persons who have no right to possess it.

(N.B.—This clause is evidently directed against foreigners.)

Form of Authorization to make Trial Borings.

Permission is hereby given to make trial borings for one year in the piece of ground above-named.

This authorization becomes null and void from the day on which it passes into the hands of a person who is not qualified (*i.e.*, legally), to make the borings described in it.

(Signed by the Minister of Public Works.)

Date.

Form of Deed of Allotment.

The land described above is hereby temporarily allotted for the purpose of a mine being opened. A proper title-deed will afterwards be given, when the ground has been examined, measured, and the tax has been settled. This Deed becomes null and void from the day on which it passes into the hands of a person who is not qualified (legally) to open such a mine.

(Signed by Minister of Public Works.)

Date.

Notification No. 55 of 1875.

The working of mining produce in the Hokkaidô is under the direction of the Colonization Department; and therefore in regard to the Office of Mines mentioned in the "Regulations for Japanese Mines," published in Notification No. 259, in the month of July 1873, the Head of the Colonization Department is to be considered as holding the full powers of that Department, and of the Board of Works. Thus, persons desirous of carrying on (mining) operations in the locality in question, must make application in all matters to that Department (Colonization Department.)

The above is notified.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

April 12, 1875.

List of the Mines marked upon the Map accompanying Mr. Plunkett's Report.

Number on Map.	Name of Mine.	Nature of the Mineral produced.
1	Ashiwo	Copper.
2	Shiramizu	Coal.
3	Chioka	Iron.
4	Handa	Silver and gold.
5	Shtomai	Copper.

Number on Map.	Name of Mine.	Nature of the Mineral produced.
6	Hosokura	Lead.
7	Oharamachi	Iron, sand.
8	Bungiuzan	Iron (lump).
9	Too	Gold and mercury.
10	Heigori	Iron.
11	Osarisawa .. .	Copper.
11 A	Kosaka	Silver.
11 B	Ooguzu	Gold.
12	Yunosawa	Silver.
13	Hakoosan	Lead.
14	Opu	Copper.
15	Kakoshí	Silver.
16	Ani	Copper, lead, and silver.
17	Innai	Silver and gold.
18	Sachiu	Copper.
19	Kamo	,,
20	Koomamura	Coal.
21	Toshinoku	Copper.
22	Kagami	,,
23	Kanehoriyama ..	,,
24	Toodani	,,
25	Tashino	Iron pyrites.
26	Udo	Copper.
27	Iwami	Silver and copper.
28	Sasagatani	Copper.
29	Imabu	Coal.
30	Karatsu	,,
31	Uranotani	,,
32	Taba	,,
33	Shoindani	,,
34	Sagaguchi	,,
35	Hirado	,,
36	Takashima	,,
37	Kurakawa	Coal oil.
38	Akatani	Coal.
39	Mieke	,,
40	Sado	Gold, silver, and copper.
41	Ono	Copper.
42	Tada	,,
43	Kuonayama Bishi ..	,,
44	Takanabe	,,
45	Nishitani	,,
46	Iwanofuchi	,,
47	Ikuno	Silver.
48	(?)	Copper.
49	Nakakosaka	Iron.
50	(?)	Lead.
51	Ishibé	Copper.
52	Motokawa	,,
53 (?)	Kurihara	Lead.
54	Hei	Iron.
55	Omoya	Silver, copper lead (?).

Number on Map.	Name of Mine.	Nature of the Mineral produced
56	(?)	Iron, sand.
57	(?)	Coal.
58	Amakusa	,,
59	(?)	Coal oil.

Report by Mr. Plunkett on Coal Mines at Karatsu.

Sir H. Parkes to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *Yedo, September* 25, 1875.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a Report by Mr. Plunkett on the coal mines of Karatsu. It clearly shows how much more productive these mines might become if they were worked with the aid of foreign skill and capital.

The only mine in Japan which is being developed with such assistance is the coal mine of Takashima, near Nagasaki, which was at one time leased to a foreign proprietary. This lease, however, has lately been resumed by the Japanese Government in the furtherance of their present policy, which is opposed to the possession by foreigners of any interest in Japanese mines, whether as part owners, lessees, or mortgagees.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure.

Mr. Plunkett to Sir H. Parkes.

Sir, *Yedo, September* 20, 1875.

WITH reference to the Report which I had the honour of submitting to you on the 22nd of April last, respecting the mines of Japan, I beg now to add some observations on the coal mines of Karatsu, which I visited during my late cruize in Her Majesty's ship "Frolic."

Karatsu is a castle town of about 4,000 inhabitants, situated at the end of a broad bay. The anchorage is

Town of Karatsu

Anchorage.

bad, being completely exposed to the north, but large junks can get shelter in the river on which the town is built. The bar, however, cannot be crossed at low water, and it frequently has a very heavy swell breaking over it.

Situation of Mines.

The mines are situated in a valley which runs up at the back of the town, and the principal pits are distant about nine English miles. There is a good road along which jinrikishas can travel as far as Oochimura, but it is extremely narrow and rough, and it is frequently necessary to alight and walk some yards over the worst places. The road passes up a valley of singular beauty and richness, from one to three miles wide, hemmed in by mountains, most of which are clothed with luxuriant forests to their very summits. The lowland is all well cultivated and produces rice and cotton, while along the foot of the mountains, wheat, millet, beans, and "kodrju" (the paper tree) grow in great quantities. The river which runs through this valley, nearly parallel to the road, is a regular mountain stream, with a broad bed and little depth of water. Indeed, to look at it, one wonders how the small boats which bring the coal down from the mines can find water enough to float them. The river is, however, navigable at least as far as Oochimura, and I believe also to Takatomura, a few furlongs higher up.

At the latter place are situated the pits whence the Japanese Admiralty draw their principal supplies.

These two districts contain a large number of different pits, each small in itself, but the aggregate of them producing a considerable amount of coal daily. They lie mostly about 2,000 or 2,500 yards from the river side.

Mode of working.

The mines are worked by private parties under lease from the Government; and Government officials from Saga frequently visit the district, and inspect the workings.

Royalties superseded.

As in the rest of Japan, all royalties due to Government are suspended for the present, so the lease holders get the mines for nothing.

The reasons which have induced the Government to adopt this liberal measure have been already explained in my previous Report.

Pit near Oochimura.

The pit we visited, and which we were assured was a fair average specimen of the forty other pits now at

work in that part of the district, is situated 2,200 yards from the river, in the small lateral valley of Oshigawa Uranotani. It has but one entrance, viz., an adit bored through the rock about 4 feet wide and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, carried down at an angle of 56 degrees until it reaches the seam of coal at a distance of about 100 yards from the entrance; thence it is carried on about 60 yards farther; at the bottom the adit becomes still smaller, and it is only possible to advance by crawling on all fours. On either side of the main adit, four side galleries have been opened, each from 10 to 12 yards in length, and not more than 3 feet high. From these the coal is taken, the seam being apparently worked to a thickness of only about 20 inches. Considerable quantities of coal are left along the sides and top. There are scarcely any wooden supports, and no precautions seem to be taken against landslips except close by the entrance, where for a few yards some wooden shoring has been put up to support the roof.

Adit.

Seam.

The miners work lying on their sides or backs, and never can stand up. The coal is removed with small picks and wedges driven in with a hammer. It is then placed on small oblong bamboo baskets, each holding about a "picul" ($133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.), provided with iron runners, which just fit the wooden sides of the ladder laid along the floor of the entrance adit. This forms a kind of rude tramway, along which the baskets are hauled up to the surface. They are drawn by boys, apparently not more than 12 or 14 years old, who crawl on all fours harnessed to the basket by a very short yoke, so short indeed, that even when out of the mine, and working their loads across to the coal-yard, they are still obliged to crouch in the same painful manner. They haul their loads up the incline holding with their hands and feet to the ladder laid along the ground, and in the steeper portions of the adit a second boy helps them by pushing from behind. This process of hauling the coal to the surface is extremely slow and laborious, and it seems incredible that in a pit which we were assured had been opened only four years ago such a faulty system should still be adhered to.

Modes of picking and hauling.

The mine is lighted throughout with common open oil lamps stuck here and there against the sides, and no care is taken to prevent accidents from firedamp.

Lighting.

Japanese miners say no explosion has ever yet been heard of in any Japanese coal mine, and therefore they maintain that no precautions are required. This is probably true, as long as it is only the surface coal which has to be extracted; but the experience at Takashima, where deeper seams are being worked, unfortunately proves that firedamp accidents do also occur in this country.

Ventilation. As there is only the one small adit to the pit, the ventilation below is atrocious. The only attempt made to improve it is, that at the entrance of the adit, instead of leaving it wide open to the outer air, a small mud hovel, about 7 feet square and 6 feet high, has been built. There are no windows; but on one side is a small aperture about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high by 2 feet wide, which serves as a door, and through which everybody must crawl to get in or out of the pit, for it is the only means of communicating with the workings. In the roof is an aperture of about 18 inches in diameter, on which a rude kind of chimney is made by seven "sake" tubs with their bottoms knocked out piled one on the top of the other. A steady but slight draft of air is thus established between the small door and the chimney; it passes across the mouth of the adit, and no farther attempt is made to improve the ventilation of the pit. We were assured that at all the other pits in the neighbourhood, although the adits in some cases run 400 yards into the hill side, the same rude contrivance is adopted.

Daily production. The produce of this pit is estimated on an average at 240 piculs (about $14\frac{1}{4}$ tons) per day. Forty coolies are employed, and they have six non-working days in

Wages. each month. They are paid principally by task work, and the usual wages they earn vary from 20 sen (10*d.*) to 30 sen (15*d.*) a-day, according to the strength and industry of the individual. The miners work in pairs, and it is considered they ought to lift 10 piculs a-day, which, at the regular rate of 6 sen (3*d.*) per picul ($133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs.) would give each man 30 sen a-day for his share.

Drainage. The pit is little troubled with water, but the means used for getting rid of it, which I am told are the same in nearly all parts of Japan, are of the most primitive and inadequate description. The working galleries

being only about seventy feet below the surface, just above these a large square well is dug to a depth of about fifty feet, and the water from below is pumped into this by small hand bamboo pumps, capable of lifting about as much water as an ordinary garden syringe. On the surface, close on one side of this well, stands a high post, on which works a long walking beam, at one end of which, fastened to a thick bamboo, is a large tub; the bamboo is long enough to allow the tub to reach the bottom of the well; at the other end of the walking beam are attached four ropes. Inside the well, about ten feet down, is a small platform on which a man stands to receive the tub as it comes up. Suppose the tub to be at the bottom of the well, four men, holding the ropes at the end of the walking beam, run down the side of a small mound, thereby lifting the tub to the level of the platform, where the man, seizing it, turns the water over into a small channel made to carry it out into the valley which is a few feet below, and where there is a small stream communicating with the river farther down. The four men then walk up the hill again, thereby letting the tub fall to the bottom of the well to be refilled, and so on till the water is reduced to a proper level. It is hardly probable that the tub can make more than forty journies up and down per hour, and as it contains only about twenty gallons, the total amount that could be lifted by this means would not exceed 19,200 gallons in the twenty-four hours.

In the pit, however, at Oshigawa Uranstani so little water comes in, that three hours' work a-day suffices to keep it clear.

Surface carriers.

The coal is taken from the pit's mouth to the river-side in small carts, holding from 2 cwt. to 3 cwt. each, according to the strength of the drawers. Many of these are women, and they all make eight or nine journies a-day each way. They are paid by task-work, and earn on an average about a boo (1*s.*) a-day. To do this they must walk over twenty English miles. From the mine to the river-side boards are laid down, forming a very rough kind of tramway; but as they are not fastened down, nor even properly joined together, besides being all sorts of different shapes, the relief they afford to the drawers must be extremely small.

There is a gentle incline down to the river, so that surface carriers are so far more fortunate than the underground trammers, who have to haul their loads up a steep incline. The carts used by the surface carriers are of two different descriptions. One is a bamboo basket placed on low wheels and fitted at each end with semicircular shafts bending downwards, so that the hind shafts can easily be made to scrape along the ground, and thus act as a drag. The other is a narrow, wooden box mounted on two high wheels, and fitted with a pair of shafts about seven feet long joined together at the end. Both these conveyances carry about the same amount of coal, and are equally clumsy. The only difference is that, whereas the baskets are dragged, the boxes are pushed, and, as a rule, men are employed to work the latter, and women the former. Horses appear to be little used, and then only as pack animals, not for draught.

Carts.

The whole system for carrying the coal is of the most rude and unsatisfactory description, and the amount of time and labour wasted therein greatly increases the cost for delivery on board ship at Karatsu.

I have explained how the coal is first hauled up to the surface by means of small baskets on runners. These are not emptied direct into the surface carriers' carts, but their load is shot on to the ground, whence it is afterwards taken up by hand and placed piece by piece in the carts. Moreover, when the surface carriers reach the river-side, instead of shooting their loads direct into the boats, they also merely upset it on to the ground, leaving it to the boatmen in their turn to fetch it away by small basketsfull.

Faulty nature of arrangements.

As the valley is broad, with a steady and gradual fall towards the river, there ought to be no difficulty whatever in laying down a narrow iron tramway (which would run most of the way through rice fields), so that the same small carts might go direct from the working galleries to the boats, and thus save two useless loadings and unloadings.

The flat-bottomed boats which are used for transporting the coal to Karatsu, where they deliver it alongside of the vessels, are long, narrow "sampans," worked by one man only. They carry usually 30 piculs (about 1 ton 15½ cwt.) of coal; but there are also some larger boats which carry about 3 tons.

Boats.

The current in the river is so strong and steady that the boats run without difficulty down to the sea; and, as they almost invariably return empty, except when they bring a few stores for the miners, one man can manage them without difficulty. It takes on an average three days to get the coal from the pit's mouth to Karatsu.

Cost.

The price at the pit's mouth is 10 yen per 100 piculs (equal to about 6*s*. 9*d*. per ton), and 13½ yen per 100 piculs (about 8*s*. 3½*d*. per ton), delivered at Karatsu.

I was informed that these are the wholesale cost prices; but Captain Buckle had to pay about 13*s*. a ton, delivered in the bunkers, for some which he purchased for the use of the "Frolic." That was the best that could be obtained, and was apparently excellent; but, when tried in the furnaces, it was found to answer very badly for steaming purposes. It burns fast, forms much clinker, has an immense percentage of ash, and fouls the tubes very quickly.

Nature of th coal.

It is, however, very generally used for the Japanese men-of-war and by the native steamers. Where from the shortness of the passage the amount of coal to be carried is of little consequence, and where the furnaces are specially constructed for burning dirty coal, it can be used with advantage, as it is cheaper than Takashima, and, of course, far cheaper than any foreign coal.

Civility of Admiralty agents.

Both the imperial Admiralty and the National Steamboat Company have agents at Karatsu for the purchase and control of their coal supplies, and I am largely indebted to both these gentlemen for much useful information.

Returns.

The following Table shows the total amount of coal sold at Karatsu in the yearr 1873, 1874, and the first part of the present year. The share taken each year for the use of the Japanese imperial navy is also shown in each case, besides being included in each total:—

Years.	Total Amount sold.		Amount used by Imperial Navy.	
	Piculs.	Tons (about).	Piculs.	Tons (about).
1873. January to December ..	792,005	47,143	141,975	8,451
1874. January to December ..	921,948	54,878	241,254	14,360
1875. January 1 to June 5 ..	533,999	31,785	141,809	8,442

In the return given in my Report of April 22nd, the total output of the Karatsu mines for 1874 were estimated at 58,288 tons, an excess of only 3,400 tons above the total set down in this Table as having been sold during the same period.

This small difference can easily be accounted for by waste on the way down from the mines to the sea, and also by local consumption; and it is as satisfactory as it is unusual to find two returns, obtained at six months' interval from two totally different sources, so confirmatory of each other.

It would appear from this return that while the general sale of Karatsu coal has increased only slightly in the last two years, the amount taken by the navy has more than doubled in the same period.

Junks used in preference to foreign-built vessels.

The Imperial Admiralty still employ common junks to transport the coal to their various depôts, and foreign built ships very rarely visit the bay.

Freights.

The following Table of the freights paid by the Government per 100 piculs (nearly 6 tons), was kindly communicated to me by the agent, and is interesting, not only as showing what price they can get the work done for, but also as giving an idea of the places at which they maintain coal stores:—

TABLE of Freight per 100 piculs.

	Value.	Approximate Value.
	Yen.	£ s. d.
To Yedo	20 00	4 0 0
Hakodate	35 00	7 0 0
Hiogo	7 50	1 10 0
Tsuruga	15 00	3 0 0
Nagasaki	4 50	0 18 0
Kagoshima	8 50	1 14 0
Tsushima	5 50	1 2 0

These rates appear to be enormously high. For instance, in the case of Yedo, it will be seen that the cost of transport more than doubles the price of the articles, viz.:—

	Yen sen.
100 piculs coal, delivered at Karatzu	13 50
Freight to Yedo	20 00
	33 50

Equal to about 22*s.* per ton laid down at Yedo.

When Europeans are allowed to take part in coal mining a better state of things can very easily be inaugurated; and the Japanese Government themselves would probably be the first to feel the advantages arising from the increased production and lower prices which will certainly be the result of invoking the aid of foreign enterprize and intelligence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Prussia.

Report by Mr. Nicolson on the Trade and Industry of Berlin for 1874.

General Observations.

The five milliards must be considered as no newly created capital. They were composed partly of the economical savings of the French at home, and partly the calling in of much of their capital invested in foreign undertakings. The milliards were largely expended in repairing the material destroyed by the war, in increasing the fleet, in building forts, in forming a war chest, in making good the damage caused to the railway transport, &c. The payment of the five milliards gave a sudden impulse to the trade in Germany, and especially to the building trade in the large cities.

In 1867, the industrial classes in Berlin formed about half of the whole population; in 1871 (the date of the last census) they bore a proportion of nearly 54 per cent. to the whole population. Such was the demand for labour, that unskilled workmen were paid as highly as skilled hands had formerly been. For double wages, less and worse labour was obtained. Exports diminished, and were undersold in foreign markets.

The silver thaler still is, in fact, the standard in Germany. Now silver has, with regard to gold, been depreciated, since 1872, about 5 per cent. All the importations into Germany are paid in gold, and all exportations out of Germany are calculated on the rate of exchange for silver. This disadvantageous position for Germany is owing to the transition state from the old to the new coinage. Another disadvantageous circumstance is the decreasing saving power of the upper classes. The reaction after the speculation mania

seems to have affected the employers of labour more than the working classes, as the deposits in the Berlin Savings Banks in 1874 increased to 833,000 thalers (124,950*l.*)

The trades in articles of clothing form the largest contingent of the Berlin working-classes.* Employed in these trades were 10,107 employers, 16,196 workmen, and 35,007 workwomen. Their wages, since the increase in 1872, have changed but little. The next largest contingent are those engaged in furnishing houses, glaziers, turners, carpet-makers, &c. Here were employed 5,584 employers, 16,899 workmen, and 374 workwomen. In this branch of trade the wages are somewhat lower. Next comes the building trade, and those engaged in the iron and steel factories. In the former there were 3,031 employers, and 14,132 workmen. The wages are still high. This number was largely increased in 1872 and 1873, but decreased greatly in 1874. In the latter, there were 2,027 employers, 15,567 workmen, and 32 workwomen. Wages have been slightly lowered in this branch. Then come the lead, bronze, copper, tin-workers, &c., and also the workers of fine metals, carvers, engravers, &c. The weaving trade is an extensive one. Machinery for telegraphs, water and gasworks, employ a largish number of hands. The leather-workers are well represented, but the tanners form a small number.

The failures in the building trade strongly affected many other industries, such as the water and gasworks, the bronze, iron, and zinc industries. The activity in the construction of locomotives and carriages diminished greatly. Several branches in the trade of machinery stopped completely. Articles of luxury were in less demand. High wages reduced the export of articles which are rather the "spécialités" of Berlin, such as cloth, furniture, &c. These articles competed badly with the cheap articles of other German towns, and especially with those of France. The cattle trade diminished, owing to less demand from England and France. The Berlin breweries, which pay a $\frac{1}{7}$th of the malt-tax in the whole of Prussia, drove a slightly better trade than the other trades; but owing to the high price of grain, returns were not so great as was

* These numbers are based on the census of 1871.

hoped. Leather manufactories flourished. The smaller trades remained much the same, but suffered slightly from the high rate of wages.

An Imperial Law was passed on November 30, 1874, for the more effectual protection of trade-marks. An inquiry is being made by the Federal Chancery as to the best mode of drawing up a Patent Law, which is much needed in Germany.

Articles of Consumption.—Even with good harvests the importation of cereals exceeds the export. From 1834-1843 the export of rye exceeded the import on an average by about 841,688 centners per annum. In 1874, the import exceeded the export by about 15,730,000 centners. From 1834-1864, the export of wheat exceeded the import by about 4,500,000 centners per annum. In 1874, 163,000 centners had to be imported. With barley and oats are the same results.

The prices for wheat were higher during the spring than they had been in the previous year, running from 87 to 92½ thalers (13*l.* 1*s.* to 13*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*) a tonne (about 24 cwt.), as compared to 86 to 87 thalers (12*l.* 18*s.* to 13*l.* 1*s.*). But in the summer they fell to 77 thalers (11*l.* 1*s.*), and in early autumn to 71½ thalers (10*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*). In November, they fell to their lowest rate, being 58 thalers (8*l.* 14*s.*) a tonne.

Rye did not disappoint the expectations formed of it. The importation amounted to 133,471 tonne into Berlin. Prices varied from 64 thalers (9*l.* 12*s.*) to 56½ thalers (8*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*) per 1,000 kilog., and fell in September to 46½ thalers (6*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*).

Oats played an important part this year. The whole importation into Berlin amounted to 103,854 tonne, as against 70,133 tonne in 1873. Only one-sixth of this was transshipped for export, the remainder being consumed at Berlin. The highest price fetched was 68 thalers (10*l.* 4*s.*) per 1,000 kilog., and the lowest 49 thalers (7*l.* 7*s.*)

Barley was not very satisfactory, and was limited chiefly to meeting the demands of the breweries. Prices ranged from 76 thalers (11*l.* 8*s.*) to 52 thalers (7*l.* 16*s.*). The arrivals in Berlin amounted to 38,736 tonne, as compared with 43,795 tonne in the previous year.

Spirit Trade and Spirit Manufacture.—At the beginning of the year 1874, the spirit production was very

great, but prices ran high during the summer, probably owing to the deficient supply of spirit conveyed by water. Up to June 30, only 2,400,000 litres were conveyed to Berlin by water, as compared with 5,175,000 litres in the previous year. In August, water transport had completely ceased, owing to the dryness of the summer. The result was that, in the summer months, large importations by rail were made from Breslau, Posen, Stettin, Saxony, &c. In the month of September, the arrivals amounted to 5,670,000 litres. The prices in September fell from 25 thalers (3*l.* 15*s.*) to 22 th. 15 sgr. (3*l.* 7*s.* 3½*d.*) per cask, and these prices decreased further in October. The lowest price during the year was 17 th. 20 sgr. (2*l.* 13*s.*) per cask. The manufacture of spirits was not so important in 1874 as it had been in the previous year. The exportation fell off. The prices in the spirit market were, in comparison with those of other lands, too high. Serious disadvantages are feared, as the exportation of this article, which is of such importance, is impeded by fiscal interests, when all competing States encourage and facilitate it as much as possible. Another great danger is the appearance of Russian spirit in the Hamburgh market; and unless some measures are taken by the Government, this will be a serious obstacle to the prosperity of the spirit trade. The extraordinary cheapness of the Russian spirit, favoured by a high bounty on export and other encouraging measures, throws German spirit almost entirely out of competition. At least 22,000 casks of raw spirit, at 600 litres the cask, arrived at Hamburgh, viâ Lubeck, from the Russian Baltic Provinces, in the year 1874. The potatoe spirit (for the most part negotiated without counting the cask) fetched from 47 to 51 marks (2*l.* 7*s.* to 2*l.* 11*s.*). After it had been refined in Hamburgh, the spirit, under the protection of German Commercial Treaties, was exported as of German manufacture. Of the spirit which was refined in Berlin—

	Per cent.
The provinces took	50
South Germany and Switzerland	16
Hamburgh	11
Alsace-Lorraine	3
Spain	2
France	4

	Per cent.
England	4
Bremen	3
Lübeck	4
Sweden and Norway	2
Denmark	1

The increased rate of transport also injured the spirit trade of Berlin. Owing to the transit freight, Breslau and Posen, for instance, were able to transport their spirit to Alsace, Loraine, and Switzerland at a cheaper rate than Berlin was able to do.

Cattle Trade.—In the year 1874 there were sold in Berlin Cattle Market—

	1874.	1873.
Oxen	107,535	119,702
Calves	105,474	99,619
Sheep	509,945	637,792
Pigs	322,129	310,005

There was hardly any export to England. Prime beef was sold at 23 thalers (3*l* 9*s*.) per 50 kilog. (bone not counted in the weight); and the more ordinary portions at 20 to 22 thalers (3*l*. to 3*l*. 6*s*.) per 50 kilog.

The prices of veal were very changeable, but in general they were not so high as in the previous year. Mutton fetched 8½ to 9 thalers (1*l*. 5*s*. 6*d*. to 1*l*. 7*s*.) per 20 kilog. Pork did not recover from the low prices of 1873. The best portions rarely fetched more than 20 thalers (3*l*.) per 50 kilog., and often lower than that.

In articles of Colonial produce the year 1874 was unsatisfactory, and the prices of most articles rose considerably: 120,869 centners of coffee paid duty at the Berlin Custom-house, as compared with 134,745 centners in 1873.

The famine in India and the consequent increase of prices were not without effect in the rice market. The amount of rice in 1874 which paid duty was 42,616 centners, as against 40,088 centners in 1873. Spices were subject to great fluctuations: 7,131 centners paid duty, as against 17,130 centners in 1873. Owing to the drought in Asia the supply of currants was small, and high prices were the necessary consequence.

Sugar Trade.—Statistics of the export out of and

of the import into Berlin of sugar are completely wanting.

Beer Trade.—In consequence of the extraordinarily high price of grain, the stoppage of industrial activity, and the unfavourable position of the working classes, the beer trade for 1874 was worse than in the two previous years.

The price of brewing barley varied from 70 to 80 thalers (10*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.*) per 1,000 kilog., as against 60 to 70 thalers (9*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*) in 1873. Hops fetched about the same price as in 1873.

There are fourteen breweries in Berlin, shareholding companies, having amongst them a capital of 11,565,000 thalers (1,734,750*l.*) In 1874 only six paid over 5 per cent. dividend. In 1873 nine of these companies paid over 5 per cent. Of the twenty-two Bavarian beer breweries in Berlin one has 70,000 centners of malt taxed; two over 40,000 centners, five between 20,000 and 30,000 centners, and the rest under 20,000 centners. Of the twenty-six white, bitter, and brown beer breweries, two have 30,000 centners of malt taxed, the remaining twenty-four under 20,000 centners. In the year 1863-64 the Berlin breweries paid 188,952 thalers (28,342*l.* 16*s.*) malt tax; in the year 1873-74 they paid 588,407 thalers (88,261*l.* 1*s.*) malt tax. In the year 1874 the malt tax produced in the whole of Prussia 4,160,670 thalers (624,101*l.*), of which Berlin paid the one-seventh. In proportion to the population of the whole of Prussia the malt tax was 5 sgr. 5·3 pf. a-head (about 6½*d.*) In Berlin it was 21 sgr. 4·3 pf. (about 2*s.* 2*d.*) a-head. The quantity of beer brewed in Berlin was—

	Hectolitres.
Bavarian beer	1,200,000
Other beer	625,000
	1,825,000

Calculating the price of Bavarian beer at 5⅔ thalers (17*s.*) a hectolitre, and the other beer at 4 thalers (12*s.*), this represents a total value of 9,300,000 thalers (1,395,000*l.*). Thus Bavarian beer exceeds the other beer by about 90 per cent. Twelve years ago the case was exactly the reverse.

The Berlin population consumes about 200 litres a-head in the year. In Munich the proportion is about

340 libres a-head. This is calculated on the amount of beer brewed, and of course some is consumed elsewhere than in Berlin.

Wine Trade.—There was a slight diminution in the quantity of wine which passed through the Berlin Custom-house in 1874 compared to that in 1873 :—

	Centners.
Wine, in cask	71,807
„ in bottle	24,400
	96,207

In 1873 there were 109,613 centners.

Under the fear of a bad vintage and high prices, large orders were given in the early part of the year, but when the summer held out better prospects the trade held their hands. The quality of the light Bordeaux wines was considered superior to that in 1841, which is held to be the best year here. The *phylloxera vastatrix* destroyed many of the vines in the south of France, and there are signs of its devastations being carried up into the Bordeaux district. In the Rhine provinces and the Palatinate the quality of the wine was rather inferior and deficient in quantity. The prices fetched in this class of wine were scarcely justified by the quality. Moselle wine had a fair harvest. Alsatian wines were in considerable quantity, but not of very good quality. Portuguese and Spanish wines were unsatisfactory, the wines of the former country being found only fit for purposes of distillery.

Wood Trade.—The activity of the building trade, owing to the failures of 1873, began to diminish, especially in the better and more solid kind of buildings. The price of fir timber fell during the year, while oaken laths and bars suffered a reduction of price of 10 to 15 per cent., and 25 to 30 per cent., respectively. The business in planks was pretty active at the commencement of the year, but owing to the slackness of the furniture trade fell off considerably. Firewood was imported into Berlin in far less quantity than in the previous year. In 1873, 824,448 cubic metres were imported ; in 1874, only 531,331 cubic metres. The mild winter of 1873-74, however, had left large quantities of firewood unconsumed. The lowness of the rivers diminished in a very great degree the water transport of wood, and raised

the freights to a hitherto unknown height. It was found cheaper to transport the wood by railway. The prices of firewood were higher owing to the high freights.

Coal Trade.—Owing to the extraordinarily high price of English and Westphalian coal, Stettin and other places in the Baltic were forced to supply themselves to a great degree with Silesian coal. The following Tables show the import into Berlin, and the transport through Berlin, during the years 1873 and 1874:—

IMPORT into Berlin.

	1874.	1873.
	Hectolitres.	Hectolitres.
Pit coal—		
Upper Silesian . ..	8,195,453	6,372,290
Lower Silesian . ..	1,473,257	1,045,727
Westphalian	170,492	7,360
Saxon	6,324	5,601
English	3,151	11,893
Peat coal—		
Bohemian	1,391,665	1,404,728
Bitterfeld	147,294	206,348
Coke—		
Westphalian	298,838	223,456
English	1,166	4,286
Silesian	99,353	189,306
Diverse	5,994	10,261
	11,847,309	9,702,688

TRANSPORT through Berlin.

	1874.	1873.
	Hectolitres.	Hectolitres.
Pit coal—		
Silesian	1,677,114	1,828,195
Westphalian	..	477
Coke—		
Westphalian	18,236	11,042
Silesian	32,038	294,232
	1,736,114	2,148,166

The large increase of Upper Silesian pit coal imported into Berlin is in a great measure due to the fact that the English gas establishment in Berlin supplied themselves

with this coal in lieu of English coal. English coke has almost entirely disappeared, and Westphalian coke employed in its stead. The high price of English coal drove the consumers to use Silesian and other coal of Germany, and as the results were satisfactory, they will probably continue to consume their home production. The average prices of coal during the year were as follows:—

	Per load of 40 hectolitres. Thalers.		£ s.	£ s.
Upper Silesian pit coal . ..	22 to 25	=	3 6 to	3 15
Ditto, cubic coal	21	24	3 3	3 12
Ditto, small coal	16	18	2 8	2 14
Lower Silesian at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ thaler lower.				
English pit coal	24	27	3 12	4 1
Ditto, factory coal	19	22	2 17	3 6
Ditto, smelting coal	21	24	3 3	3 12

Westphalian coal, 12 to 13 sgr. per centner, equal to 1*s.* 2$\frac{1}{2}$*d.* to 1*s.* 3$\frac{1}{4}$*d.*

Coke in the beginning of the year fetched 36 sgr. (3*s.* 7*d.*) a centner, and fell rapidly to 20 sgr. (2*s.*) a centner. Bohemian peat coal was 44 to 46 thalers (6*l.* 12*s.* to 6*l.* 18*s*) per waggon (200 centners). Inland peat coal 4 to 5 sgr. a hectolitre. Gas coke 9 to 12 sgr. (11*d.* to 1*s.* 2$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*) a hectolitre.

The production of coal increased, but the consumption decreased, and till the iron trade has resumed its activity more advantageous prospects cannot be looked for in the coal trade.

The production of gas amounted to 51,746,400 cubic metres as against 45,978,000 in the previous year. By this 9,020 public jets and 437,950 private jets were fed. The value of the coal employed amounted to 1,624,629 thalers (243,694*l.* 7*s.*), and the average price was 8 ths. 18 sgr. 10·68 pf. (about 26*s.*) a ton. Wages were higher in 1874 than 1873.

Iron and other Metals.—The year 1874 was not a satisfactory one in this trade. The over-production of the previous year sent prices down, and the demand was less. Scotch goods were in fair demand, and fetched high prices—so high, in fact, that the smelting works endeavoured to employ Silesian iron, but the quality of this iron is too uncertain to be depended on—and the endeavours were not successful. English iron was firm. No iron plates were imported from England. The prices of plates of German manufacture are found to be lower

than those of the corresponding qualities of English manufactures, and the home works are perfectly well able to supply quickly and satisfactorily the German demand. There was a fair demand for steel, but prices nevertheless were lower, owing to the cheaper cost of production. Tin afforded scarcely any profit, but this was owing to the large quantities of Australian and Peruvian tin which were imported. Lead was in tolerable demand, and fair prices obtained; little was imported from England, but Spain furnished considerable quantities. Antimony was imported largely from England at low prices. Hungarian antimony did not show in the market at first, owing to the high prices demanded for it, but eventually it appeared at more moderate rates. There was a tolerably active trade in copper. English and Australian copper were imported.

Rape-seed Oil, Rape-seed.—The trade in rape-seed oil lost considerably in 1874, owing in a measure to the fact that other chandler's wares, such as linseed oil, cotton oil, &c., had a backward tendency; and the demand rather diminished than increased. Prices were low. The average price for rape-seed was up to October 84 thalers to 88 thalers (12*l.* 12*s.* to 13*l.* 4*s.*) per 1,000 kilog., which price went down to 79 thalers to 81 thalers (11*l.* 17*s.* to 12*l.* 3*s.*). The Berlin mills were supplied from Uckermarck, Pomerania, Posen, Mecklenburg, East and West Prussia. The Hungarian harvest was not sufficiently large to admit of any exportation. The prospects for the harvest of 1875 were good.

Petroleum.—The dryness of the summer months, and the deficiency of water-carriage, prevented the importation attaining those dimensions which the experience of past years, and the cheapness of the article, justified the trade in expecting. The importations from America took six or eight weeks on the journey from Hamburg to Berlin, and the freight, which, in America, was calculated at $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 sgr. per centner, really was 5 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ sgr. The importation of petroleum was, therefore, attended with loss, and the importers got rid of the article as quickly as they could. Prices were, therefore, very low, and Berlin proved to be the cheapest petroleum market. The prices in January were $10\frac{1}{2}$ thalers (1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*) per 100 kilogs; in October, $7\frac{1}{8}$ thalers (1*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*); in December, $8\frac{3}{4}$ thalers (1*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*).

		Barrels.
In 1874.	Importation	76,226
	Exportation	90,517
In 1873.	Importation	101,766
	Exportation	89,072

Petroleum is now largely used, owing to its cheapness, not only for lighting and cooking purposes, but also for greasing and polishing. It is to be hoped that in the revision of the railway tariff system petroleum will be placed in the lowest class of goods.

Linseed Oil, Hemp Oil, and other Chandler's ware.—There are no statistics respecting the trade in these articles in Berlin itself, as the merchants store most of their goods in Stettin and Hamburg, and send them straight from there into the provinces; but the statistics of Hamburg and Stettin will give some idea of the trade.

Stettin imported:—

	1874.	1873.	Prices fetched.
	Centners.	Centners.	Thalers.
Oil—			
Olive	29,665	107,008	14¾ to 16 per centner.
Linseed	71,804	57,799	10½ 11½ „
Cotton	11,248	11,637	10½ 11 „
Sunflower . ..	400	409	14½ 15½ „
Hemp	870	951	13 — „
Palm	73,206	75,890	12½ 13 „
Cocoanut . ..	23,539	21,911	13 16 „
Oleine	18,036	15,520	
Train	36,023	34,131	25 27 a tonne.
Tallow	73,852	80,788	14⅙ 15¼ per centner.
Grease	204,486	297,496	
	543,129	697,590	

Hamburg imported:—

		1874.	1873.
Oil—			
Olive	centner .	63,000	86,000
Linseed	casks ..	25,000	19,000
Palm	„ ..	4,900	3,332
Cocoanut . ..	„ ..	4,200	3,751
Train	tonne ..	78,500	64,000

Skins and Hides.—Notwithstanding the large importation of tanned leather from America, the prices

of tanned leather and of raw leather were constantly on the rise to the end of the year. The average prices were, dried salted Cerea, 9½ sgr. to 10½ sgr. per lb,; dried Buenos Ayres, 11 sgr. to 13 sgr. per lb.; dried Angostura and Guatemala, 11½ sgr. to 11¾ sgr. per lb.; dried Mazatlan, 10¼ sgr. to 10¾ sgr. per lb.; dried West Indian and Mexican, of poorer quality, 9¾ sgr. to 10½ sgr per lb.; green salted Rio Janeiro, 7 sgr. to 7½ sgr. per lb.; green salted La Plata, 7½ sgr. to 8 sgr. per lb.

Wool Trade.—The amount of wool in the Berlin market was:—

	Centners.
Old wool	15,000
New wool	135,000
	150,000

As against 90,000 centners in 1873.

Business was dull, as the cloth manufacturers and carders were very reserved, and there were no foreign purchasers at all. The exportation of German wool has almost entirely ceased, except in washed German wool, as the price of washed Colonial wool is too high to enter into competition with the German. The Colonial wool business in the Berlin market was active, and there was a greater demand for it. The importation into Europe amounted to 1,060,500 bales, 90,000 more than in 1873. Germany imported direct 40,000 bales; 6,702 bales were sold at wool auctions in Berlin. Berlin prices depend on those of the London market, and these were too high for German manufacturers.

Raw Silk.—The trade in this article was not satisfac-factory, as indeed all articles of luxury were in less demand.

Manufacture of Articles of Metal, Wood, &c.—The establishments for making machinery suffered considerably in 1874, owing to the failure of several railway undertakings, and the general badness of the times. The dividends of most of the companies having interests in the different branches of machinery were very low, or else not paid at all. Some establishments obtained some compensation in contracts for military arms, &c. The over-production of American sewing machines is becoming a danger to the increasing trade of Berlin in this class of machines. One house alone in Berlin pro-

duced 7,439 of these machines in 1874. The price for locomotives fell as the demand was less; so much so, that some establishments had to discharge hands, and most of them reduced the wages. In 1872, there were 1,052 workmen employed in building locomotives; in 1874, 601 workmen. In carriages there was the same result. The largest carriage-building establishment in Berlin saw its business sink from 4,122,897 thalers (619,434*l.* 11*s.*) in 1873, to 2,468,589 thalers (370,288*l.* 7*s.*) in 1874. At the beginning of 1874, there were 1,529 men employed in this trade, and at the end of the year 744. The men are paid by the piece, and as they worked harder than formerly, wages remained about the same. The average daily wage of a man was 1 th. 11 sgr. 6½ pf. (about 4*s.* 2*d.*). The highest wage obtained in the best time of 1873 was 12 th. 1 sgr. 1½ pf., or only 7 pfennig more. The trade in the manufactures of small iron articles, such as safes, meat-cutting machines, &c., was fairly satisfactory. Articles made out of copper, *i.e.*, apparatuses for sugar factories, breweries, mineral-water manufactories, pumps, &c., were in large demand, and were also exported to Russia, Belgium, and Sweden. The braziers' wares drove a brisk trade in 1874. The following statistics are given:—

	Kilog.
Brass, plating	733,259
Pinchbeck, ditto	46,325
German silver, ditto	4,364
Wire of different metals	201,702
	987,660

representing a value of 650,000 thalers (97,500*l.*). Of this amount 637,660 kilog. were sold in Berlin, and 350,000 kilog. exported to Saxony, Bavaria, Austria, and Russia. The lamp manufactories took the largest share. Electro-plate suffered the depression of all articles of luxury. Bronzes remained pretty steady; but inventors not being able to patent their inventions, the artistic development of this branch of industry is greatly impeded. The high rate of wages also gives great advantages to foreign competition.

Zinc castings were in much less demand, as architects, sculptors, &c., employ other materials for their purposes.

Water and Gas Apparatuses for Heating Gasometers, &c.—According to the last census, in 1871, there were 178,159 dwelling houses in Berlin; of these 65,007, or 36·5 per cent.; were provided with a water supply; and 15,964, or 9 per cent., with water-closets; 26,978 houses possessed a gas supply. The sudden mania for building gave full employment in this branch of trade to all hands that could be found, and wages rose to an abnormal height. Towards the end of the year, as the speculations burst, companies had to discharge hands, and lost heavily. The poorer and more unskilled class of workmen lived a hand-to-mouth existence. Some houses, such as that of Messrs. Aird, had large orders for water supply and canalization in other towns than Berlin, and so were not much affected by the crash.

The Porcelain Manufacture had not a very successful year. The demand for articles of ordinary domestic use was much about the same as in previous years; but there was a falling off in the demand for more artistic and expensive wares.

The Brick Kilns, on which great hopes had been based, were comparatively idle in 1874. The prices went down 33⅓ per cent., while the quantity of bricks produced was less by half of what it had been in the previous year.

The Furniture Trade suffered severely by the high rate of wages. French houses were able to undersell the Berlin houses, and the way which Berlin had made in South Russia, Roumania, and America was lost, and the orders from those countries were sent to Paris.

The Piano-forte Trade is one of the few which has not been affected by the universal depression, and Berlin exports pianos not only to England, Russia, Italy, and North America, but also to Mexico, South America, and Australia. The manufacturers pay high wages, and take care that the instruments are so constructed as to stand any climate. About 10,000 pianos were made in Berlin in 1874, and of these about 1,200 were grand pianos.

Tobacco.—The tobacco trade was not successful. The bad harvest in the United States and the high prices asked there for tobacco diminished the supply here. The Uckermark tobacco had a bad harvest, and fetched high prices.

Tallow Candles.—The manufacture diminished. Only about 1,000 centners were made in Berlin, of which about 900 centners were sent into the provinces. Prices about 17 thalers (2*l.* 11*s.*) a centner.

Stearin Candles unfortunately were injured by one of the largest factories in Berlin being burnt down, and importations had to be made from Holland and elsewhere. The production amounted only to 19,000 centners in Berlin, and prices ranged to 27½ thalers (4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*) for first, 25½ thalers (3*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*) for second, and 23½ thalers (3*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*) for third quality.

Soap.—There was a tolerably active trade in this article, of which about 250,000 centners were produced. There was an increase in the production of olive oil and toilet soap. The following Table shows the prices fetched in the different kinds of soap:—

Soap—	Thalers.			Per centner. £ s. d.				
Tallow and palm oil .	11	to	12	= 1 13 0	to	1 16 0		
Hard	8¾		9¼	1 6 0		1 7 7		
Elain	7¾		10	1 3 6		1 10 0		
Green	6¼		8	0 18 7		1 4 0		
Olive oil	12½		13	1 17 6		1 19 0		
Toilet	15		17	2 5 0		2 11 0		

Leather Trade.—Berlin has become very active in the leather trade. It has been calculated that the trade in raw hides, represented by ten large and five small houses, amounts to 6,500,000 thalers (975,000*l.*); that of sixteen leather factories to 2,500,000 thalers (375,000*l.*); in Morocco leather, sheepskins, and leather for portfolios, &c., to 2,000,000 thalers (300,000*l.*); of sixteen wholesale houses of tanned leather to 6,000,000 thalers (900,000*l.*); of twelve leather commission agencies to 5,000,000 thalers (750,000*l.*); and of numerous retail houses in leather to 5,000,000 thalers (750,000*l.*); in all to 27,000,000 thalers (4,050,000*l.*).

France bought largely from the tanning houses on the left bank of the Rhine, as also in Brunswick and Hanover, so that Berlin had to import largely from America and England.

Leipsic is the great market for furs, but the trade in Berlin for this article was moderately brisk.

The subjoined Table gives the values of the goods exported in 1874 from the Berlin Consular District to the United States:—

Description of Goods.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total Value for 1874.	Total Value for 1873.
	Th. sgr. pf.	Th. sgr. pf.	Th. sgr. pf.	Th. sgr. pf.	Th. sgr. pf.	Th. sgr. pf.
Basket goods	454 21 6	2,656 18 0	3,414 21 3	412 20 9	6,938 21 6	12,721 21 7
Books, lithographs, oleographs ..	36,452 10 6	56,579 6 0	65,613 14 4	35,659 0 11	197,304 1 9	300,165 4 6
Chemicals, colours, &c.	32,406 28 0	25,591 0 0	51,803 28 8	40,320 13 9	150,122 11 2	165,115 2 9
Cotton goods	35,239 11 6	39,743 0 0	58,802 7 0	27,272 28 7	160,337 17 1	116,702 17 0
Coloured woollen yarns	67,850 24 6	} 154,198 5 9	{ 165,481 3 6	106,509 0 3	} 614,843 18 3	551,403 8 2
Lace	10,929 7 9		{ 85,383 10 3	24,498 7 3		
Small iron, wood, and leather articles .	13,809 4 6	62,829 8 5	146,350 25 11	44,443 3 10	267,432 12 8	333,853 2 8
Glass and porcelain	3,064 14 3	25,849 22 2	35,931 7 3	30,961 21 0	95,807 4 8	62,982 1 10
Sham jewellery	25,384 3 0	38,160 0 0	39,245 17 10	7,675 18 0	110,465 8 10	85,460 17 9
Lead, machines, zinc	131,678 8 6	212,876 26 1	84,760 15 4	106,965 8 9	536,280 28 8	549,133 25 6
Gloves and glove leather	132,943 15 0	74,722 0 5	165,692 7 6	32,211 10 0	405,569 2 11	297,066 23 5
Linen goods	112,511 18 9	82,278 15 8	56,963 20 10	10,052 11 6	261,806 0 9	397,638 20 6
Liqueurs, wine, syrup	1,024 6 6	866 17 10	10,221 28 8	13,921 16 0	26,034 9 0	46,396 16 0
Paper, pasteboard	61,451 13 6	52,014 0 0	58,078 19 1	21,435 14 1	192,979 16 8	199,929 2 9
Musical and optical instruments ..	13,283 10 6	13,496 13 10	22,013 29 0	39,226 23 0	88,020 16 4	69,604 11 6
Clothes	173,023 13 3	15,110 0 0	272,762 8 2	50,975 4 7	510,870 26 0	684,443 7 6
Silk goods	22,028 8 0	11,671 8 4	92,861 2 3	28,143 6 6	154,703 25 1	196,069 23 1
Woollen goods	220,431 16 6	123,488 10 0	182,522 18 9	122,440 3 0	648,882 18 3	489,257 10 4
Various	41,472 12 3	44,266 21 9	77,785 19 0	14,474 21 8	177,999 14 8	267,781 20 11
Total	1,134,439 9 1	1,039,397 24 3	1,674,969 4 7	757,592 12 5	4,606,398 20 3	5,824,742 27 9
Total previous year . ..	1,536,148 12 3	1,229,613 18 8	2,060,158 3 1	998,822 23 9	5,824,742 27 9	..
Decrease	401,709 3 3	190,215 24 5	385,188 18 6	241,230 11 4	1,218,344 7 6	..

Money and Credit Business, Insurance Companies, &c.—The past business year was a very unsatisfactory one. The word "active" seemed to have disappeared from the Exchange vocabulary. Large capitals had been squandered in undertakings, or returned for the present no interest; and all dividend papers, such as railways, banks, &c., were of less value. On January 1, the rate of discount of the Prussian Bank was 5 per cent. In this month it went down to 4 per cent.; but in October it was raised to 5, and in November to 6 per cent.

The speculation mania, with its evil results, compelled men to save their money and wait for better days. There was naturally a tendency to invest in undertakings which, though they gave a small interest, were considered safe. Of Foreign Securities, Russians were in high repute, as great confidence is placed in them. Austrian, Italian, and Turkish Loans were also in considerable request. Railway Stocks had generally a downward tendency, and large sums were lost in them, and a disinclination shown to invest money in any railway undertaking. It is thought that it will be very difficult, if not impossible, during the next few years to obtain private capital for the making of railways. The railways have so varied their tariffs, have spent so much money on useless and expensive buildings, and have made so many unpaying lines, that little confidence is placed in them.

The greatest losses, however, were in the Shareholding Industrial Companies. Many of these Companies of their own accord declared themselves bankrupt, or were declared so by law; while several of the present existing ones must meet with a like fate. Insufficient floating capital, too large undertakings, unbusiness-like conduct of affairs, too high wages with less labour, were the principle causes of the calamities.

Exchange ran at the following rates:—

	Jan. 2.	Highest.	Lowest.	Dec. 31.
	Th.	Th.	Th.	Th.
Napoleons . ..	5·10	5·13¼	5·10	5·12¾
Sovereigns . ..	6·21½	6·24¾	6·21½	6·23½
Ducats	3·05¼	3·07	3·04¼	3·06¼
Imperials	463½	470	460½	466½
Foreign paper ..	99⅕	99⅞	99⅔	99¾

The Fire Insurance Companies in Berlin had property insured to the amount of 408,118,745 thalers (61,717,811*l.* 15*s.*) on January 1, 1874. On January 1, 1873, the total amount was 335,254,544 thalers (53,288,181*l.* 12*s.*); so there was an increase of 52,864,201 thalers (8,429,630*l.* 3*s.*) The insurances increased in 1874; but in September and October there were so many fires that fears were entertained; but at the end of the year the balance sheets showed a satisfactory result. For instance, the "Berlin Fire Insurance Company increased their premiums from 408,935 thalers (61,295*l.* 5*s.*) to 440,960 thalers (66,144*l.*). 117,654 thalers (17,648*l.* 2*s.*) were paid for losses. 19,000 thalers (2,850*l.*) yet remains to be paid. 90,000 thalers (13,000*l.*) were divided for dividends—about 45 thalers (6*l.* 15*s.*) a share.

In 1874, the Berlin Insurance Company against Hail received 344,903 thalers (51,735*l.* 9*s.*) premiums for insured sums of 25,328,603 thalers (3,799,290*l.* 9*s.*) For 1,427 reported cases of damage 133,891 thalers (20,132*l.* 13*s.*) were paid out. After paying all expenses there was a surplus of 148,500 thalers (22,275*l.*); 6,000 thalers (900*l.*) went to replace some capital, and the rest was paid out in dividends.

The Life Insurance Companies suffered slightly from the diminution of the incomes of the richer classes. The most prosperous of the Companies, the Berlin Life Insurance Company, had, in 1874, 2,016 new insurances, with 3,500,000 thalers capital (525,015*l.*), as against 1,745 new insurances, with 3,321,400 thalers (498,210*l.*) capital in 1873.

Berlin, October 13, 1875.

Russia.

Report by Mr. Doria on the Trade and Commerce at the Fair of Nijni-Novgorod.

Mr. Doria to the Earl of Derby.

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, October* 12, 1875.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying report on various articles of commerce and trade which supply the great mart for Russian imports and exports at Nijni-Novgorod during the two months that the fair is held at that town.

The number of persons visiting the fair this year was calculated at 1,000,000, of whom 150,000 were resident for a longer or shorter period during the fair at one time.

Since the year 1847 to 1874 the value of the imports has more than tripled; from 55,000,000 in 1847 to 180,000,000 roubles last year. The value of merchandize actually sold in 1847 was for 48,000,000 roubles; in 1874 it amounted to 164,000,000 roubles. Judging from these figures it cannot be stated that the importance of the trade of Nijni has been diminished or to any extent directed into other channels throughout the Empire by the influence of the railways, although the diminution in the amount of tea is to be attributed to the quantity imported by Riga from England. The transactions in Khiakhta tea are less than 50 per cent. of the entire tea trade. The whole value of tea sold at Nijni-Novgorod during the three last years is represented by the following figures: 1,423,675*l.*; 1,166,247*l.*; and 1,377,268*l.* for last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. DORIA.

Inclosure.

Report.

Geographical Position.

The fair of Nijni-Novgorod, or, as it is sometimes termed, Macarieva, is held on a piece of land opposite the town of Nijni-Novgorod, at the confluence of the rivers Oka and Volga, having been transported to its present position after the conflagration which destroyed the former fair, then held opposite the Macarieva Yellow-Water Monastery.

The position occupied by the fair is unrivalled in the whole Empire for the advantages of water-communication; on the one hand the Volga, united by a system of canals with the Baltic Sea and flowing into the Caspian, the basin of the rivers of Central Asia, forms a cheap route for the transport of merchandize from Europe and from the North of Russia to Asia. On the other hand, the Oka, with a course of 2,400 versts through Central Russia, watering the Governments of Orel, Kalonga, Toula, Moscow, Riazan, Tambov, Vladimir, and Nijni-Novgorod, bears to the Volga the produce of the richest soil of Russia, as well as the manufactures of the most industrial and densely populated districts; thus connecting, by an inexpensive water route, the fair of Nijni with the commercially enterprising manufacturing city of Moscow.

Here, also, near the confluence of these two rivers, and contributing a great volume of water to the Volga, flows the River Kamma, one of the few tributary streams which have a course from east to west, uniting the latter with the remote northern and north-eastern parts of Russia, Siberia and the Ural, possessing rich deposits of minerals and metals.

Not only, however, are the rivers as means of transport favourable to the position of the fair.

The position itself is the very centre of industrial activity and historical recollection.

Here, between the Oka and the Kamma is the great meeting-place of transports from the source and mouths of the Volga; the Volga itself flows through districts inhabited by the most energetic and industrial part of

the population, traversing the principal manufacturing provinces of the Empire. Here, too, lies the theatre of the fiercest struggles between those races the fusion of whose elements founded the power of the Russian Empire; and here did the Russian people make their great stand against the nomadic hordes of Eastern Asia, and here Christianity, represented by the Russian people, finds itself face to face with the heathen and Mahometan world of Upper Asia.

Historical Origin.

In the year 1816, the fair was transferred to this place, the Government market halls were erected, and opened eventually in 1818. Till that time the fair had been held near the monastery of Macarieva, Yellow Water, on the left bank of the Volga, in the meadows opposite the celebrated village of Liskova, about eighty versts from Nijni, lower down the river.

This monastery was originally founded in the beginning of the fifteenth century by St. Macarius, a native of Nijni-Novgorod, and monk of the Nijni-Petcherski Monastery, but was razed to the ground by Onglou Mehmet, Khan of Kazan. It was rebuilt in the beginning of the seventeenth century by Abraham, a monk of Mouroma. From this date we have authentic accounts of the existence here, on the day of the decease of St. Macarius (25th July) of an immense fair, all the duties levied upon it being given, by the Tsar Michael Feordorovitch, in revenue to the monastery.

Hither was transferred all the trade which had been carried on from time immemorial at the fair held in the fields at Arski, near Kazan, but which the Moscow merchants were forbidden to attend, in consequence of the Russian merchants being massacred at the fair during the reign of John the Third, by the Tartars, at the order of Khan Mehmet Ammin.

Basile Johanovitch, in the year 1524, instituted, in place of the market in the fields at Arski, a fair at Vassil-Soursk, on the Volga, a place then lying within the confines of the Russian Empire, but this fair did not flourish, and the Moscow merchants continued to journey to Arski.

With the opening of the fair near the Macarieva

Monastery, in 1624, all commercial activity was transferred thither. The fair soon became developed, and its buildings in a short time formed a small town; all administrative and municipal control being vested in the Archimandrite (abbot).

In 1718, by a Decree of Peter the Great, the fair was taken in hand by the Government. In 1755, Government wooden sheds were erected, and from that time its importance has steadily increased, traders flocking to it from Central Asia and even from far-off China.

But the place it occupied offered little convenience for permanent buildings or continued travelling. Being situated on the low left bank of the Volga, the freshet caused the river to overflow its banks in the spring, and the land remained for some time covered by water, while the deep sand deposited by the river rendered the transport of goods exceedingly difficult, and, moreover, communication with the opposite bank, whence the larger portion of merchandize arrived, was in no way easy.

Consequently, when, in 1816, the market halls were destroyed by fire, the fair, in accordance with the opinion of Count Roumiantseva, was transferred to Nijni-Novgorod, a town which had already long been of considerable commercial importance, serving as storehouse for merchandize from the Volga and the East, and which from its situation presented such favourable geographical advantages, being also nearer to Moscow, which city was becoming more and more rapidly the administatrix and housekeeper, so to speak, of the Macarieva fair.

Description.

The ground occupied by the fair was purchased by the Government from the town of Nijni, and buildings were erected upon it, originally at the Government expense, on the plan laid out by the celebrated Russian engineer, General Betancour. The centre of the fair forms an immense market hall, rectangular in shape, situate on the left bank of the Oka, between that river and Lake Mestcherski, a broad sheet of water almost adjoining the Volga, but divided from it by a narrow strip of land. The surface of the lake

is about six yards above the low-water level of the Volga.

The rectangular market-place consists of twelve rows of commercial edifices, four in each row, the centre traversed by a boulevard planted with trees.

One end of this boulevard opens upon the square in front of the cathedral church; at the other stands the so-called "Chief House of the Fair," which contains the Hall of Exchange, Fair Office, Telegraph Station, Post-office, and apartments appointed for the residence of the Governor-General during the continuance of the fair.

Near the square, behind the "Chief House," are several other commercial buildings, and between them and the River Oka is the Chapel of St. Macarius, on each side of which stands a tower with a flagstaff. The raising and lowering of the flags denote the inauguration and the close of the Fair.

Occupying the space between the twelve rows of market halls and Cathedral, and standing at right angles to the former, are four edifices, the so-called Chinese rows, each ornamented with three double towers, somewhat resembling the Chinese style.

These buildings have shops on both sides constructed with a passage through them. Formerly they were divided one from another by inner walls, but afterwards, with the development of commerce, many traders occupying shops on both sides took down the partition-walls, and formed the so-called passage-shops.

The whole of the rectangle occupied by the market halls of the Fair is surrounded by a moat in the shape of a horse-shoe, the fore part of which encompasses the church.

The moat is planted round with trees, and has its waters supplied by the Mestcherski Lake, which, in turn, to prevent the possibility of its exhaustion, is connected by a canal, seventeen versts in length, with the River Pivira.

Between the market halls and the moat there exists the celebrated subterranean gallery, washed by the water from Lake Mestcherski, which, rushing with great impetus into the gallery, cleanses it thoroughly, carrying away all rubbish into the River Oka, whose level is six yards lower than that of the lake.

Behind or outside the moat are the following

Government buildings: Armenian church, Tartar mosque, and the Persian buildings, which formerly served as the exclusive dwelling-place of traders arriving from Asia, but now more commodiously substituted by the recently constructed caravanserai. Until a few years ago the use of fire was prohibited in all the buildings of the market halls, and all lights had to be extinguished by 9 o'clock. The trakteers, eating-houses, places of amusement, &c., having the privilege of illumination, were constructed outside the moat.

At present the rules with regard to fire are not so strictly enforced, but great caution is observed in the use of it, on account of the enormous amount of merchandize stored in the interior of the market halls.

Smoking is strictly forbidden entirely throughout the precincts of the Fair.

In consequence of the development of the Fair, all the space around the market halls is covered with the private buildings belonging to commercial houses, formerly constructed of wood; now, however, the use of brick or stone material is obligatory.

The conditions on which the market halls were let to the merchants were exceedingly liberal. Neither patents nor particular licenses were required to be possessed by the traders; any one who desired a shop for trading purposes might obtain one, the only conditions being that he was the first applicant, and that the shop was unoccupied by anyone else.

The occupation of a shop during the fair of one year carries with it the right of priority to the same shop during the next fair; the occupant pays the rental, brings his merchandize, and opens the shop for trade by the 25th of June.

In order to prevent speculation, no merchant is allowed to hire more than three consecutive shops in one row, and every row is appointed its peculiar kind of merchandize. Subletting the shops is also prohibited.

The amount of revenue to the Government for the hire of the buildings constructed at its expense, and the land rental for buildings constructed by private enterprise, has increased in the following proportion :—

	Number of Shops let.	Money Received.
		Silver R.
1817	2,962	41,212
1827	3,592	116,640
1837	4,171	128,851
1847	5,197	157,911
1857	5,600	169,161
1862	5,889	182,340
1867	5,655	190,176
1872	5,805	194,314
1874	6,086	204,650

	Merchandize.	
	Imported.	Sold.
	Silver R.	Silver R.
1827	..	14,974,550
1837	..	35,877,000
1847	55,952,000	48,725,000
1857	87,142,665	79,539,120
1862	103,009,850	94,522,950
1867	126,512,000	105,256,000
1872	177,522,000	154,333,000
1874	180,201,000	164,805,000

The erection of the market halls cost the Government upwards of 3,000,000 roubles (11,000,000 roubles assig.), and at the breaking up of the ice and freshets they are every spring covered by the inundations.

Management of the Fair.

The inauguration of the fair takes place on the 25th of June, and comes to a close on the 5th of September (old style), the day on which the flags are lowered to denote that all trading has come to an end.

There are, however, fifteen days more devoted to the settlement of all accounts.

The supervision over all the different branches of the administration of the fair belongs to the Governor, and the management of the transactions of the fair is intrusted to a committee, called the "Fair Committee," the manager of the Fair Office, and the Mayor of the town of Nijni-Novgorod.

The President of the Exchange Committee of the Fair, as well as the Aldermen and the members of the

Fair Committee, are elected by an assembly of Deputies chosen from among the merchants of the fair, and to serve for a term of three years, with the exception of the members only of the Fair Committee, whose term of service ceases at the expiration of one year.

The following gentlemen form the Administrative Committee:—

President.—Mayor of the Fair, Mr. V. Moshneen.

Aldermen.—M. le Prince Engalitchew, Mr. P. Ossipoff, Mr. M. Popoff.

Members of the Committee.—Mr. T. Barissoff, Mr. Botchkanoff, Mr. Gouskoff.

Office Manager.—Mr. J. Vorobieff.

Town-Mayor.—Mr. M. Goubeen.

The management of the Government property is in the hands of the Committee of the Fair.

This Committee is likewise entrusted with the letting of the shops and storehouses belonging to the Government, the collection of all rents, carrying out of repairs, erection of bridges, and other temporary Government works, for the proper execution and supervision of which Mr. Richard Kühlewein has been requested to attend.

Fish Trade.

1871.

	Poods.		Value.		Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.		
Fish, salted and smoke-dried	559,000	..	..		1,343,000
Fish oil	40,000	..	3·50 to 5		170,000
Seal oil	30,000	..	4	4·50	127,500
Isinglass (red)	200	..	75	110	18,500
Caviar (pressed)	5,000	..	22	24	115,000
Salt herrings	..	150,000	10	12·50	1,687,500
Total	..	..	..		3,461,500
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver-rouble	..	..	..		475,956*l.* 5*s.*

1872.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Fish, salted and smoke-dried	1,494,000	..	..	3,579,900
Fish oil	50,000	..	3·60 to 6	240,000
Seal oil	100,000	..	5 5·50	525,000
Isinglass (red)	..	..	..	..
Caviar (pressed)	1,500	..	24 28	39,000
Salt herrings	..	350,000	7 8	2,625,000
Total	..	..	..	7,008,900
				963,723*l.* 15*s.*

1873.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Fish, salted and smoke-dried	995,000	..	..	2,047,000
Fish oil	100,000	..	2·60 to 5·15	450,000
Seal oil	75,000	..	3 3·50	243,750
Isinglass (red)	..	..	..	..
Caviar (pressed)	5,000	..	16 20	90,000
Salt herrings	..	150,000	4 6	750,000
Total	..	..	..	3,580,750
				492,353*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

1874.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Fish, salted and smoke-dried	780,600	..	..	2,369,750
Fish oil	50,000	..	2·10 to 5	206,500
Seal oil	100,000	..	2·60 2·80	270,000
Isinglass (red)	..	..	..	..
Caviar (pressed)	3,000	..	18 22	60,000
Salt herrings	..	150,000	5 5·50	825,000
Total	..	..	..	3,730,800
				512,985*l.*

Corn and Floor Trade, 1871—74.

1871.

Corn.	Poods.	Sacks.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
In flour—			Silver R.	
Rye	..	416,500	4·80 to 5·45	2,134,562
Wheaten, three kinds ..	..	72,600	7 14	762,300
Pea	4,950	..	7 14	51,975
Buckwheat	..	7,600	7 14	79,800
In grain—				
Wheat	374,200	..	8 12·50	4,822,437
Rye..	810,410	..	0·44 0·52	389,000
Peas	16,840	..	0·75 0·95	14,314
Buckwheat, different sorts	..	96,300	7 7·25	686,138
Millet	..	382,600	9 10·70	3,768,610
Rice	..	28,605	1·65 2	339,355
Barley	..	32,745	4 4·50	139,165
Seed corn	62,420	..	1·15 1·55	84,267
Oats	...	301,200	2·40 3·20	843,360
Malt	22,600	..	0·90 1	21,470
Bran	..	5,470	2 3	13,675
Total	..	..	..	14,150,428
Exchange, 33*l.* = 1 silver rouble	..	..	..	1,945,683*l.* 17*s.*

1872.

Corn.	Poods	Sacks.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
In flour—			Silver R.	
Rye	1,788,658	..	5·10 to 5·65	1,068,426
Wheaten, three kinds ..	324,373	..	6 14	624,878
Pea	..	..	..	..
Buckwheat	..	..	..	..
In grain—				
Wheat	2,042,464	..	14·50 18	4,128,755
Rye	..	54,477	4·70 5·60	280,557
Peas	..	991	10 14	11,892
Buckwheat, different sorts	81,280	..	9·75 11·50	108,821
Millet	263,940	..	14 17·50	415,706
Rice	8,862	..	2·40 2·60	22,155
Barley	..	..	..	..
Seed corn	65,570	..	1·25 3·50	156,728
Oats	..	148,574	3·20 3·60	505,252
Malt	..	..	..	..
Bran	10,470	..	2·25 2·60	5,078
Total	..	..	..	7,373,248
				1,013,821*l.* 12*s.*

1873.

Corn.	Poods.	Sacks.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
In flour—			Silver R.	
Rye	360,000	..	5·40 to 6·5	239,000
Wheaten, three kinds ..	175,000	..	5·50 15	338,450
Pea	300	..	1·20 1·80	450
Buckwheat	3,955	..	1·20 1·70	5,735
In grain—				
Wheat	548,751	..	13·20 15·60	879,535
Rye	108,747	..	5·50 6·25	70,988
Peas	1,575	..	12 15	2,363
Buckwheat, different sorts	28,800	..	9 10	31,200
Millet	168,233	..	10 14	224,350
Rice	17,105	..	1·45 2	29,536
Barley	27,000	..	5·55	1,665
Seed corn	29,890	..	1·25 3·50	71,138
Oats	258,000	..	3·10 3·80	148,350
Malt	..	..	..	..
Bran	5,160	..	2·25 2·60	2,500
Total	..	..	..	2,045,260
				281,223*l.* 5*s.*

1874.

Corn.	Poods.	Sacks.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
In flour—			Silver R.	
Rye	270,000	..	5·70 to 6	175,500
Wheaten, three kinds ..	175,000	..	6 16	266,750
Pea	..	..	..	..
Buckwheat	1,925	..	1·40 1·80	3,080
In grain—				
Wheat	738,530	..	11 16·85	1,392,500
Rye	90,000	..	5 6	55,000
Peas	2,045	..	10 18	3,220
Buckwheat, different sorts	59,182	..	8 9·40	56,875
Millet	..	45,000	11 11·75	102,475
Rice	20,588	..	1·30 1·60	29,750
Barley	..	2,000	5 6	11,000
Seed corn	54,755	..	1·20 1·80	82,135
Oats	..	60,000	3·70 4	231,000
Malt	26,784	..	1·20 1·40	34,819
Bran	..	3,120	1·80 2·20	6,240
Total	..		..	2,450,344
				336,922*l.* 6*s.*

Undressed Skins.

	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Silver rouble.	Silver rouble.	Silver rouble.	Silver rouble.
Undressed skins—				
a. Ox, cow, &c.	276,925	293,025	121,748	320,550
b. Horse, large and small ...	107,600	107,290	143,589	171,240
c. Calf, raw and dressed ...	127,840	131,400	117,680	143,750
d. Buffalo	8,000	7,700	7,475	9,250
e. Camel	74,400	68,000	55,900	70,000
f. Sheep (different sorts) ...	625,132	654,620	272,288	349,640
g. Best black sheep	419,333	485,655	455,660	578,920
h. Hare	618,497	414,780	330,900	192,815
i. Deer	19,725	22,370	18,720	18,850
j. Bear	28,800	23,400	24,840	33,250
k. Common sheep	694,425	605,445	1,348,850	1,564,865
Total	3,000,677	2,813,685	2,897,650	3,443,120
	412,593*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*	386,881*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*	398,426*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	473,429*l.*
Prepared goods of down or fine fur, as—				
Cloaks, furs, collars, mantles, muffs, assorted skins of backs and breasts	4,167,000	4,385,000	4,120,000	4,475,000
Sable	79,500	94,500	41,000	29,050
Ermine	20,580	40,000	18,000	15,300
Fox, polecat, lynx, otter, squirrel, &c....	509,765	600,850	518,570	508,815
Total	4,776,845	5,120,025	4,697,570	5,028,165
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver rouble	656,816*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*	704,003*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*	645,915*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	691,372*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*

Salt, Spirits and Photogen.

1871.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Perm and Elton salt ..	6,328,000	..	42 to 47	2,890,195
Spirits of wine	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	2,890,195
				397,401*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*
Photonophile and photogen from Caucasus ..	130,000	..	2·80 to 3	377,000
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver rouble	..	..	..	51,837*l.* 10*s.*

1872.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Perm and Elton salt ..	5,385,235	..	6·25 to 6·45	3,446,554
Spirits of wine	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	3,446,554
				473,901*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*
Photonophile and photogen from Caucasus ..	140,000	..	2·90 to 3·10	420,000
				57,750*l.*

1873.

	Poods.		Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Perm and Elton salt ..	5,035,188	..	44 to 47	2,375,540
Spirits of wine	..	174,032	40 87	111,380
Total	..	..	..	2,486,920
				341,951*l.* 10*s.*
Photonophile and photogen from Caucasus ..	275,000	..	2·70 to 3·30	811,250
				111,546*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

1874.

	Poods.	Sacks.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Perm and Elton salt ..	6,660,000	..	42 to 54	3,507,300
Spirits of wine	..	100,239	3·40 3·50	347,330
Total	..	..	..	3,854,630
				530,011*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*
Photonophile and photogen from Caucasus ..	900,000	..	1·70 1·80	1,575,000
				216,562*l.* 10*s.*

Dressed Leathers.

	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Silver Roubles.	Silver Roubles.	Silver Roubles.	Silver Roubles.
Dressed leather—				
Russia leather...	1,110,000	485,450	481,300	518,700
Cowhide for soles	1,332,120	1,929,800	1,822,300	1,935,400
Stout kid and morocco ...	309,600	337,500	272,350	313,950
Fine kid	26,700	24,500	18,975	47,100
Total	2,778,420	2,777,250	2,594,925	2,815,150
Exchange, 33*d.*=1 silver rouble	382,032*l.* 15*s.*	381,871*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*	356,802*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*	387,083*l.* 2*s* 6*d.*

CAUCASUS.

1871.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Kizlarsk wine	..	300,000	1·60 to 1·90	648,000
,, spirits	..	4,000	0·11 0·14	42,300
Derbent and Koubin madder	235,000	..	8 11·50	2,405,500
Derbent ground ditto ..	22,000	..	..	310,000
Madder—Yaksai, Kizlarsk (Khiva), Shemakhin, Astrabad, &c. ..	20,000	..	5·30 10·20	180,000
Yellow dye, Kizlarsk ..	10,000	..	1·20 1·60	14,000
Cotton, Erivan	2,000	..	..	13,200
Marten-skins (mountain)..	..	10,000	9 10	90,000
,, soft ..	..	1,500	10 11	15,575
Mountain fox	..	30,000	2 2·70	70,000
,, otter	..	1,000	6 7·20	6,600
Cat-skins	..	4,000	0·70 0·85	3,100
Mountain hare	..	500	0·75 0·85	4,000
Wolf-skins	..	4,000	1 4	10,700
Silk and half-silk manufactures (Shemakhin fabric)	..	..	..	38,000
Black sheep-skins (Bukharian Danadar) ..	..	30,000	4·20 4·80	135,000
Nuts	110,000	..	1 4	246,000
Total	..	..	..	4,231,975
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver rouble				581,896*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

1872.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Kizlarsk wine	..	500,000	1·80 to 2·50	1,000,000
,, spirits	..	2,500	0·9 0·12	27,200
Derbent and Koubin madder	225,000	..	8 11	2,430,000
Derbent ground ditto ..	18,000	..	0 14·50	449,000
Madder—Yaksai, Kizlarsk (Khiva), Shemakhin, Astrabad, &c. ..	23,000	..	6 10·85	138,500
Yellow dye, Kizlarsk ..	8,000	..	1·40 1·80	12,800
Cotton, Erivan	3,000	..	..	18,750
Marten-skins (mountain)..	..	13,000	10 11·25	138,125
,, soft ..	..	2,000	11 12·30	23,300
Mountain fox	..	32,000	2·50 3·20	91,200
,, otter	..	700	7 7·80	5,180
Cat-skins	..	5,000	0·70 0·90	4,000
Mountain hare	..	5,000	0·75 1	4,400
Wolf-skins	..	3,000	1 3·50	6,912
Silk and half-silk manufactures (Shemakhin fabric)	..	..	..	43,200
Black sheep-skins (Bukharian Danadar) ..	..	23,000	8 9	195,500
Nuts	107,000	..	1·50 5	317,000
Total	..	..	..	4,905,067
				674,446*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.*

1873.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Kizlarsk wine	..	350,000	1·50 to 2·50	710,000
,, spirits	..	7,000	0 0·10	70,000
Derbent and Koubin madder	215,000	..	0·5 0·6	1,128,000
Derbent ground ditto ..	..	..	..	..
Madder—Yaksai, Kizlarsk (Khiva), Shemakhin, Astrabad, &c. ..	55,000	..	..	165,000
Yellow dye, Kizlarsk ..	5,000	..	..	7,000
Cotton, Erivan	2,500	..	..	12,500
Marten-skins (mountain) ..	..	4,000	10 13	45,000
,, soft ..	..	1,500	10 13	16,800
Mountain fox	..	23,500	2·80 3	69,000
,, otter	..	600	7·50 8·50	4,800
Cat-skins	..	6,000	0·55 0·75	3,900
Mountain hare	..	3,000	0·50 0·55	1,575
Wolf-skins	..	1,000	0 1	1,000
Silk and half-silk manufactures (Shemakhin fabric)	..	..	..	34,300
Black sheep-skins (Bukharian Danadar) ..	..	25,000	5·60 7	157,500
Nuts	140,000	..	1·20 4·50	246,000
Total	..	..	..	2,672,875
				367,520*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

1874.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Kizlarsk wine	..	325,000	1·80 to 2·40	655,000
,, spirits	..	6,000	0·9 0·10	57,000
Derbent and Koubin madder	315,000	..	5·30 5·75	1,785,000
Derbent ground ditto ..	..	..	..	..
Madder—Yaksai, Kizlarsk (Khiva), Shemakhin, Astrabad, &c. ..	23,000	..	2·25 5	91,000
Yellow dye, Kizlarsk ..	4,000	..	..	5,600
Cotton, Erivan	3,000	..	0 5·60	18,000
Marten-skins (mountain) ..	..	16,000	0·9 0·12	160,000
,, soft ..	..	5,000	0·9 0·13	55,000
Mountain fox	..	50,000	2·20 2·60	12,000
,, otter	..	3,000	5·50 7·50	19,500
Cat-skins	..	30,000	0·14 0·23	5,700
Mountain hare	..	10,000	0·40 0·50	4,500
Wolf-skins	..	5,000	1·10 1·20	5,750
Silk and half-silk manufactures (Shemakhin fabric)	..	..	..	23,700
Black sheep-skins (Bukharian Danadar) ..	..	25,000	6·50 8	171,250
Nuts	14,800	..	1·20 4·25	269,250
Total	..	..	..	3,338,250
				459,009*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

Report on the Tea Trade.

The tea trade is carried on at the Nijni Fair in two places:—

1. In the so-called Chinese rows, where the tea is warehoused and sold into what are termed "second hands," that is, to purchasers who sell it by retail in the shops.

Here also is the trade in Canton tea, which is imported across the western frontier and from Moscow.

2. On the Siberian wharves. These wharves lie along the right bank of the Volga, near its union with the Oka, and the storehouses of all the steam-boat companies navigating the River Volga stretch a considerable distance. Behind them a tramway is laid, connecting the storehouses with each other, and with the line of railway to Moscow; in the rear of this line, and along the banks of the Lake Mestcherski, enormous pyramids of chests of tea are heaped upon the ground, covered only with matting made from the inner bark of the birch tree.

These chests of tea, called "tsibiki," are packed in a peculiar manner, and are impervious to rain or damp. Outside the ordinary wooden chest is a covering of wicker-work of cane or bamboo, round which, at Kiakhta, raw bull-hides are tightly stretched, with the hair inwards.

These chests arrive at Nijni from China, having been received in barter, at Kiakhta or Maimatchin, on the Chinese border of Russia, for Russian manufactures of cotton or wool. Stitched in bull-hide and bound with bamboo, they are transported on the backs of camels to Orenbourg, thence in rude carts to the wharves of the Rivers Kamma and Volga, where they are put on board barges for the Siberian wharves, whither they generally arrive about the 15th August, thence they are carried by rail to all parts of Russia, and, crossing the western frontier, at length reach Europe.

It is these "tsibiki" which contain that particular Kiakhta, Baikhoff tea, whose taste and aroma are unequalled by any other kind of tea imported into Europe from China.

In former times, when the whole trade of Nijni Fair did not reach the sum of 100,000,000 roubles, tea was imported to the value of 8,000,000 roubles, and, together with the trade in iron, which had then attained the sum of 10,000,000 roubles, formed the two principal items in the commerce of the fair.

Launching the tea was an important moment at the fair, being the moment when the tea passed from the hands of the merchants who had obtained it at Kiakhta in barter for manufactured goods from the Chinese, and who were called Siberians (though, for the most part, they were Moscow firms), into those of the wholesale dealers, called warehousemen or "first hands," from whom it passed into the possession of the shop-keepers, or "second hands," that is, those who sold it by retail.

As soon as the lengthy bargainings had come to a conclusion, and the tea had been launched into the market, immense purchases were made of cloth and other manufactures for Kiakhta, and the prices of goods throughout the fair ceased to fluctuate.

Now, however, all this is changed. The total value of goods brought to the fair has increased to 180,000,000 roubles, and Kiakhta tea has been forced into the background, having encountered a formidable rival in the tea imported through the Suez Canal and Odessa, as well as from England, and which bears the name of Canton tea.

During the past year, although the aggregate value of the tea imported was upwards of 10,000,000 roubles, Baikhoff tea from Kiakhta furnished only 45,000 chests or "tsibiki," to the value of 4,922,000 roubles. At the same time, of Kirpitchni tea (tea pressed into the shape of bricks, whence the name), 20,000 chests were sold, to the value of 1,220,000 roubles; of Canton tea, imported across the western frontier, 23,000 chests were sold, value 2,813,000 roubles; and of tea brought by way of the Suez Canal to Odessa, and sold at the fair from samples, 7,000 chests, value 1,060,000 roubles.

Thus the transactions in Kiakhta tea are less than 50 per cent. of the entire tea trade, and only about 3 per cent. of the whole commerce of the fair.

By the accounts of the Chief Commissioner for the last three years, there has been sold at the fair the following quantity of tea :—

	1872.		1873.		1874.	
	Chests	Value.	Chests.	Value.	Chests.	Value.
		Silver R.		Silver R.		Silver R.
Kiakhta	39,300	5,373,000	45,000	4,620,000	45,000	4,922,000
Canton	39,000	3,128,000	30,000	2,918,000	23,000	2,813,000
Odessa	3,000	440,000	2,000	302,000	7,000	1,060,620
Kirpitchni	2,400	893,000	17,000	928,000	12,398	748,880
Pekin. (Small black)	8,000	520,000	9,000	549,000	8,000	480,000
Total	92,300	10,354,000	103,000	8,481,800	95,348	10,016,500
		£		£ s.		£ s.
Exchange at 33*d.*, equal 1 S. r. ...	...	1,423,675	...	1,166,247 10	...	1,377,268 15

BUKHARIA.

1871.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Cotton—Bukharian, Khivan, Tashkend, and Cochin	150,000	...	9 to 8·50	175,500
Cotton yarn, different sorts	8,000	...	11 15	104,000
Best sheep-skins—				
Karakoul	...	120,000	3 3·50	390,000
Danadar, grey	...	20,000	2 2·50	46,000
,, black	...	5,000	0·80 1·20	5,000
Karakoul-tchi	...	15,000	0·50 1	11,250
Kirghis (bagana)	...	30,000	0·30 0·45	11,500
,, (khlebni)	...	...	...	...
Silk—Bukharia and Tashkend	1,900	...	245 185	384,500
Lapis Lazuli	40	...	500 700	24,000
Fox-skins—Karagani	...	20,000	2·20 2·60	48,000
Stuffs for dressing-gowns	...	3,000	7·50	22,500
Prints	...	10,000	1·15 1·30	12,250
Sheep-skins, large and small	...	80,000	0·42 0·50	37,366
Wolf-skins	...	...	...	...
Horsehair	...	...	...	...
Martens	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	1,271,866
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver rouble... ...	...	...	...	174,881*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

1872.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Cotton—Bukharian, Khivan, Tashkend, and Cochin...	300,000	...	7·75 to 8·75	2,580,000
Cotton yarn, different sorts	12,000	...	10 12·50	138,000
Best sheep-skins—				
Karakoul	...	200,000	4 4·50	853,000
Danadar, grey	...	30,000	2·40 2·70	76,980
,, black	...	10,000	0·90 1·20	10,500
Karakoul-tchi	...	10,000	0·65 0·70	6,750
Kirghis (bagana)	...	10,000	0·60 0·65	6,250
,, (khlebni)	...	...	...	...
Silk—Bukharia and Tashkend	850	...	195 226	178,500
Lapis Lazuli	11	...	120 600	5,205
Fox-skins—Karagani	...	20,000	2·50 3·20	57,000
Stuffs for dressing-gowns	...	10,000	5·50 7	62,500
Prints	...	10,000	1·15 1·25	12,500
Sheep-skins, large and small	...	100,000	0·40 0·44	42,000
Wolf-skins	...	300	2·80 3	435
Horsehair	500	...	11 15	6,500
Martens	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	4,036,120
				554,966*l.* 10*s.*

1873.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Cotton—Bukharian, Khivan, Tashkend, and Cochin	200,000	...	6·50 to 7·40	1,750,000
Cotton yarn, different sorts	6,500	...	10·50 11·50	71,500
Best sheep-skins—				
Karakoul	...	300,000	3 3·50	980,000
Danadar, grey	...	40,000	2·20 2·60	96,000
,, black	...	5,000	1	5,000
Karakoul-tchi	...	10,000	0·70	7,000
Kirghis (bagana)	...	...	...	...
,, (khlebni)	...	...	...	...
Silk—Bukharia and Tashkend	2,500	...	160 185	437,500
Lapis Lazuli	20	...	150 1,000	14,500
Fox-skins—Karagani	...	50,000	2·80 3·10	147,500
Stuffs for dressing-gowns	...	20,000	5 7	120,000
Prints	...	10,000	1 1·50	11,500
Sheep-skins, large and small	...	300,000	0·40 0·43	124,500
Wolf-skins	...	600	1	600
Horsehair	...	...	...	...
Martens	...	4,000	8 10	36,000
Total	...	...	...	3,801,600
				522,720*l.*

1874.

	Poods.	Number.	Value.	Silver Roubles.
			Silver R.	
Cotton—Bukharian, Khivan, Tashkend, and Cochin	250,000	...	6·75 to 7	1,690,000
Cotton yarn, different sorts	8,000	...	9 11	80,000
Best sheep-skins—				
Karakoul	...	250,000	3·50 6	1,187,500
Danadar, grey	...	100,000	2 2·60	230,000
,, black	...	6,000	1 1·50	6,300
Karakoul-tchi	...	100,000	0·80 1	90,000
Kirghis (bagana)	...	250,000	0·35	87,500
,, (khlebni)	...	200,000	0·60 0·80	140,000
Silk—Bukharia and Tashkend	2,000	...	110 160	277,500
Lapis Lazuli	25	...	300 1,500	17,100
Fox-skins—Karagani	...	30,000	2·40 2·50	73,500
Stuffs for dressing-gowns	...	150,000	6 7	900,000
Prints	...	100,000	1 1·10	110,000
Sheep-skins, large and small	...	500,000	0·45 0·50	237,000
Wolf-skins	...	500	1	500
Horsehair	...	...	...	...
Martens	...	20,000	8 12	200,000
Total	...	..	...	5,326,900
				732,448*l.* 15*s.*

PERSIA.

	1871.			1872.		
	Poods.	Value.	Silver R.	Poods.	Value.	Silver R.
		Silver R.			Silver R.	
Cotton yarn	2,000	8·50 to 10	18,500	5,000	11·50 to 12	58,750
Cotton	8,000	5·50 6·50	48,000	180,000	6·20 6·50	1,370,000
Silk	400	70 135	40,000	300	60 145	32,000
Carpeting	..	7 90	20,000	..	9 300	50,000
Turquoises	..	..	50,000	..	..	75,000
Raisins	433,000	3 4·50	924,750	230,000	3·70 5·50	918,500
Dried peaches	2,000	5 5·50	10,500	10,000	4·50 5	47,000
Almonds	20,000	10·50 11	215,000	20,000	8·50 9·50	180,000
Currants	3,000	3·50 4·50	12,000	..	..	..
Dates	2,000	5 5·50	10,500	..	..	..
Pistachio	2,000	8 14	22,000	..	..	..
Nuts	226,000	1·50 12	622,000	68,000	1·50 12	209,000
White rosin, sakis	10,000	5·50 6	57,500	1,000	11	11,000
Ink nuts	13,000	7·60 9	110,750	10,000	10·25 11	107,500
Wheat	100,000	1·40 1·80	160,000	50,000	2 3	120,000
Timber	340,000	0·60 1·50	273,250	400,000	0·30 0·90	229,700
Bamboo	5,000	0·50 0·70	3,000	..	..	..
Deer-horns	1,000	5 6	5,500	1,000	5·25 6	5,625
Sheepskins	100,000	0·25 0·40	32,500	600,000	0·18 0·35	156,000
Auripigment	1,000	3 3·50	3,250	1,000	5 7	6,000
Black sheepskins	230,000	5 12	195,500	300,000	5 13	240,000
Foxskins	10,000	2·15 2·70	24,000	30,000	2·60 3·20	87,000
Ditto, Doragan	5,000	5 6	27,500	10,000	5 7	60,000
Lead	15,000	2·10 2·25	32,623	5,000	2·40	12,000
Persian dye	..	..	..	50,000	1·20 1·70	74,300
Wool	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	2,916,625	..	..	4,049,375
Exchange, 33*d.* = 1 silver rouble	..	..	401,035*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*			556,789*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

	1873.			1874.		
	Poods.	Value.	Silver R.	Poods.	Value.	Silver R.
		Silver R.			Silver R.	
Cotton yarn	10,000	10 13	115,000	1,000	8·50 to 10·50	19,000
Cotton	100,000	8·25 8·50	700,000	50,000	5·60 6·75	325,000
Silk	125	90 115	12,565	300	50 100	24,625
Carpeting	..	10 100	30,000	..	10 150	35,000
Turquoises	..	..	100,000	..	..	100,000
Raisins	180,500	1·50 3·50	445,750	465,000	1·80 3·75	1,245,625
Dried peaches	10,000	3 3·30	31,500	500	3 3·90	17,250
Almonds	10,000	8·50 9·50	90,000	5,000	8·50 9·50	45,000
Currants	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dates	20,000	3 3·50	65,000	5,000	4·50 5	23,750
Pistachio	5,000	4 16	33,000	..	..	..
Nuts	107,000	1·20 12	208,250	123,000	1·50 10	382,750
White rosin, Sakis	..	..	..	10,000	7 7·28	71,000
Ink nuts	12,000	6·50 7·50	86,000	30,000	6 6·40	186,000
Wheat	50,000	1·60 2	89,000	300,000	1 2	420,000
Timber	170,000	0·28 0·90	96,000	150,000	0·70 2	177,500
Bamboo	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deer-horns	100	5 6	550	200	6 8	1,400
Sheepskins	100,000	0·15 0·30	22,500	40,000	0·25 0·40	13,000
Auripigment	100	5 6	550	1,000	6 7	6,500
Black sheepskins	15,000	1·80 3	36,000	200,000	1 2·60	360,000
Foxskins	..	..	..	30,000	1·80 2·20	60,000
Ditto, Doragan	10,000	4 5	45,000	5,000	4 4·50	21,250
Lead	10,000	2·70 2·95	28,250	10,000	2·60	26,000
Persian dye	30,000	1 1·20	35,000	..	..	..
Wool	10,000	1·70 2	18,000	20,000	3 4	76,000
Total	..	..	2,287,915	..	..	3,637,150
			314,588*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*			500,108*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

Trade in Steel, Wrought and Cast Iron.

The trade in iron and in works of iron is carried on at the fair in two places: the retail trade on the high bank of the River Oka near the pontoon bridge in what are called the Nijnigovodski and Yaroslavski iron rows. The trade in this part of the fair is, however, of small consideration, and depends upon the wholesale trade carried on in the Siberian iron rows erected on the sands.

This is the principal wholesale trade in the iron brought to Nijni by water communication.

The market and stores occupy a low sandy island in the Oka, separated from the chief market halls, and covered to a considerable depth by the spring floods, which retire only by the beginning of June, admitting of the construction of the buildings for the fair only towards the close of that month.

This island, according to the height of the river, is from 3,150 to 5,000 feet long, and 500 to 700 feet in breadth. It is connected with the chief fair ground by bridges built every year, and possesses a tramway 2,800 feet in length along the line of shops or stores, where wagons are charged with goods for transport to the Nijni-Moscow Railway.

From the accounts of the Fair Commissioner for the years 1872-73-74, the following weight of iron in different forms was imported from the foundries of the Ural and Uiatka and sold :—

Years.	Poods.	Value.	
		Silver R.	£ s.
1872 ..	4,522,000	13,421,000	1,845,387 10
1873 ..	5,722,560	16,377,000	2,251,837 10
1874 .	5,557,800	15,955,000	2,193,812 10

[N.B.—The pood is equal to 36 lbs. The rouble is calculated at 33*d*.]

The principal foundries which send their iron to the fair are the following :—

	Foundries.
P. Demidoff	Tagil.
Successor to S. and A. Yakovleva ..	Alopaevsk and Ousetsk.
Successor to Rostorgoueff	Kishtima.
Successor to Goubin	Selgina.
Tourtchaninoff	Cissert.
Count Stroganoff	Strogonoff.
Pashkoff	Beloretsk.
Beloselski-Belozerski	Cataevsk.
Pastoukhoff	Pastoukhoff.
Lazareff	Lazareff.
Permakin	Permakin.
Vsevolodski	Nikitinski and Alexandroffski.
Boloshova	Bolosbova.
Count Schouvaloff	Lizinska and S. Kaminska.

The principal wholesale purchasers of these goods are—N. Pastoukhoff, successor to M. Roukavishnikoff, Jouravloff, Bros., Loubemoff.

Spain.

Memorandum by Mr. Phipps on Spanish Import and Export Trade during the First Seven Months of 1875.

The Official Gazette has just published the statistics of the Spanish import and export trade during the first seven months of this year. The diminution exhibited during the year 1874 is found to be progressive, especially in the most important articles of trade, and can only be accounted for by the enormous sacrifices imposed on the country by the civil war, checking both the productive and the consumptive power of the nation.

The import trade shows a decrease of 1,464,000*l.* in the value, and 161,200*l.* in the amount, of duties levied as compared with the corresponding period of 1874, while the export trade, when a parallel is drawn between the two periods, shows a decrease in value of 740,000*l.* In the latter case the importance of this decrease can only be illustrated when it is remembered that the diminution in the value of the export trade alone during the year 1874 amounted to no less than 6,440,000*l.* compared with 1873.

The decrease of the imports during the first seven months of this year would show an even larger total were it not for the considerable amount of grain imported, which, when special circumstances are taken into consideration, is not of itself a healthy sign. The diminution in the value of the following articles of import calls attention: Steel 26,400*l.*; iron (manufactured) 118,800*l.*; raw cotton 685,600*l.*; yarns 140,000*l.*; wool 72,000*l.*; Silk 26,640*l.* These last three items would indicate an unsatisfactory condition of textile industry.

Salt fish, an article largely consumed by the lower classes, shows a decrease of 40,000*l.*, sugar 350,000*l.*, this latter involving a decrease to the revenue of 80,000*l.* which can hardly be accounted for by an equivalent

sudden increase in the production and consumption of national sugar, but rather by a decrease of general consumption of this important article.

Increase is observable in the value of the timber imported, 120,000*l.*, and of grain and flour of all descriptions, amounting to 6,660,000*l.*, but in both cases involving little benefit to the revenue.

With regard to the export trade, the decrease appears to be continuous, as out of the 740,000*l.* which the statistics of the last seven months show, 148,000*l.* belongs to the month of July. Oil, which, after lead and wine, formed the most important article of export during the first half of the year 1874, has, during the first half of the present year, diminished to about one-sixth, or from 20,000,000 to 3,500,000. kilog. The exportation of cork, dried fruits, and esparto grass has but little diminished, while that of wheat has decreased from 53½ million to 2⅓ million kilog.; iron from 422,000,000 to 212,000,000 kilog.

The mining trade (excepting in the case of iron) appears alone to show favourable results, the exportation of lead in bars having increased about 12 per cent., and that of copper in bars about 100 per cent. A slight increase is to be observed in quicksilver, copper, and calamine, but a decrease of about 40 per cent. in other unclassified minerals. Salt has increased from 12 to 15 per cent.

With regard to the wine trade, the exportation of Catalonian wines has more than doubled, viz., from 38,000,000 litres during the first seven months of 1874, to over 76,000,000 litres, during the first seven months of the present year, superior white wines (exclusive of sherry) from 4,159,000 to 4,643,000 litres. Sherry, &c., shows, however, a slight reduction from 19,500,000 litres, valued at 1,763,640*l.*, to 18,500,000 litres, valued at 1,666,840*l.*, and common wine, an important one, from 77,000,000 to 31,000,000 litres.

The general condition of the wine trade may be pronounced satisfactory, as in 1873 it bore a proportion of 34 per cent. to the total Spanish exports; in 1874, of 33 per cent.; and in the first seven months of 1875, of 42 per cent. The slight decrease in sherry only attracts attention when it is remembered that, in the year 1874, the value of the wine of that class exported

showed a decrease of over 2,000,000*l*. That may, nevertheless, be accounted for by the fact that, in 1873, the Jerez merchants exported the greater portion of their stock, fearing the imposition of heavy duties.

The net increase this year in the value of the total amount of Spanish wines exported is about 347,000*l*.

It is hardly surprising that the native producers, wedded as they are to protective notions, should raise renewed cries for fresh duties on foreign products. The Andalusian oil producers clamour for duties on linseed and similar oils, as they previously did with respect to petroleum, while the paper manufacturers are said to have obtained from the Customs Department an increase at the rate of 150 per cent. in the assessment of the duties on certain classes of foreign paper, although the native paper industry is very far from meeting the necessities of the consumer.

Madrid, October 26, 1875.